

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN®

ISSUE

86

SILVER SABLE: PART 1

BENDIS
BAGLEY
HANNA

MARVEL



PREVIOUSLY

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN



The bite of a genetically altered spider granted high school student Peter Parker incredible, arachnid-like powers! When a burglar killed his beloved Uncle Ben, a grief-stricken Peter vowed to use his amazing abilities to protect his fellow man. He learned the invaluable lesson that with great power must also come great responsibility...

Having recently broken up with his girlfriend Mary Jane Watson, Peter Parker thought life couldn't get any worse. Little did he know that while his personal life crumbled around him, his life as Spider-Man would become more complicated and dangerous than ever before.

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You the guy who called?

Uh, yeah, I'm Jermaine Exum. I, uh. The insurance people told me to call you.

Yeah.

I didn't even know you guys existed.

We're in the book. So give me the rundown.

What happened here exactly?

Well...we were expecting a cargo ship dock and it was here on schedule...

But when it got here...

"It went
kaboom!"





NOW
THAT'S AN
ENTRANCE!!

OKAY, SO,
RAISE YOUR HANDS,
YOU HOMO SAPIEN
MONGRELS, YOU!!

WHICH ONE OF YOU
WANTS TO BE THE ONE
THAT SURVIVES TO TELL
THE TALE OF HOW OMEGA
RED TORE THIS PLACE
TO THE GROUND!!!



Tell me you ain't
dis crazy!?

Dis is my
livelihood, you
dumb %#&\$!!

You
lookin' for a
beatin'??



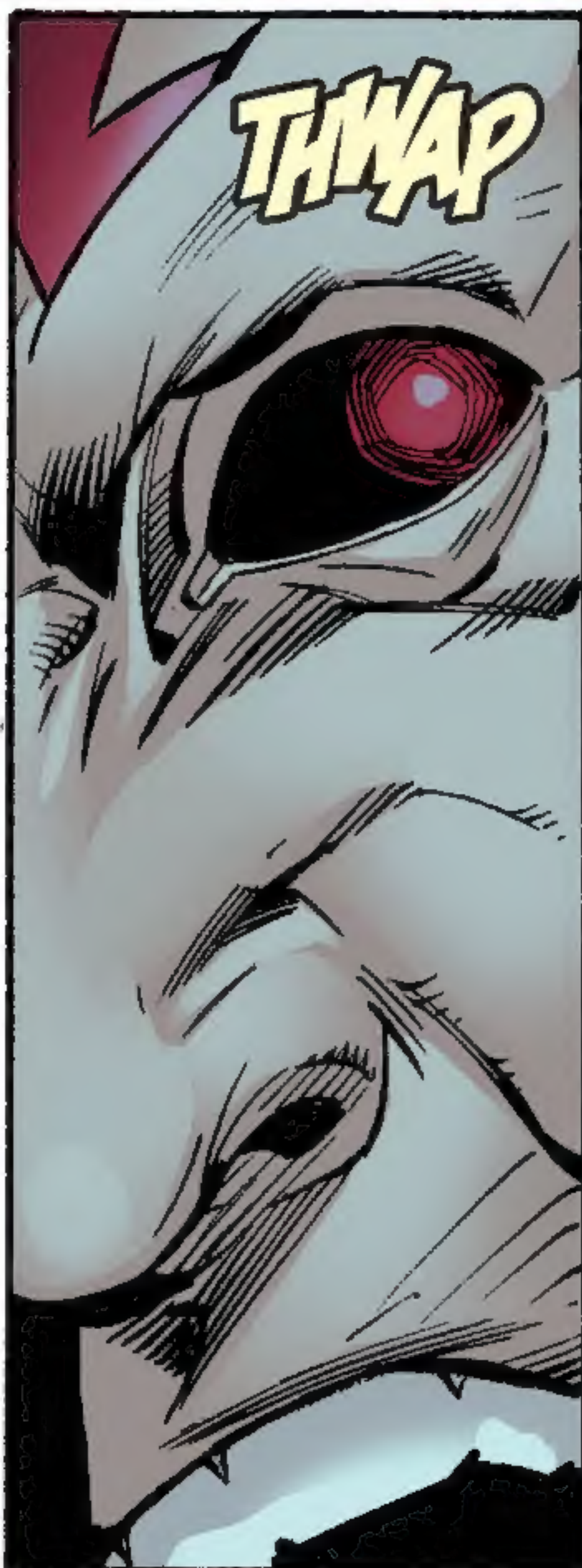
AWWW...

IT'S CUTE
THAT YOU'D
TRY.

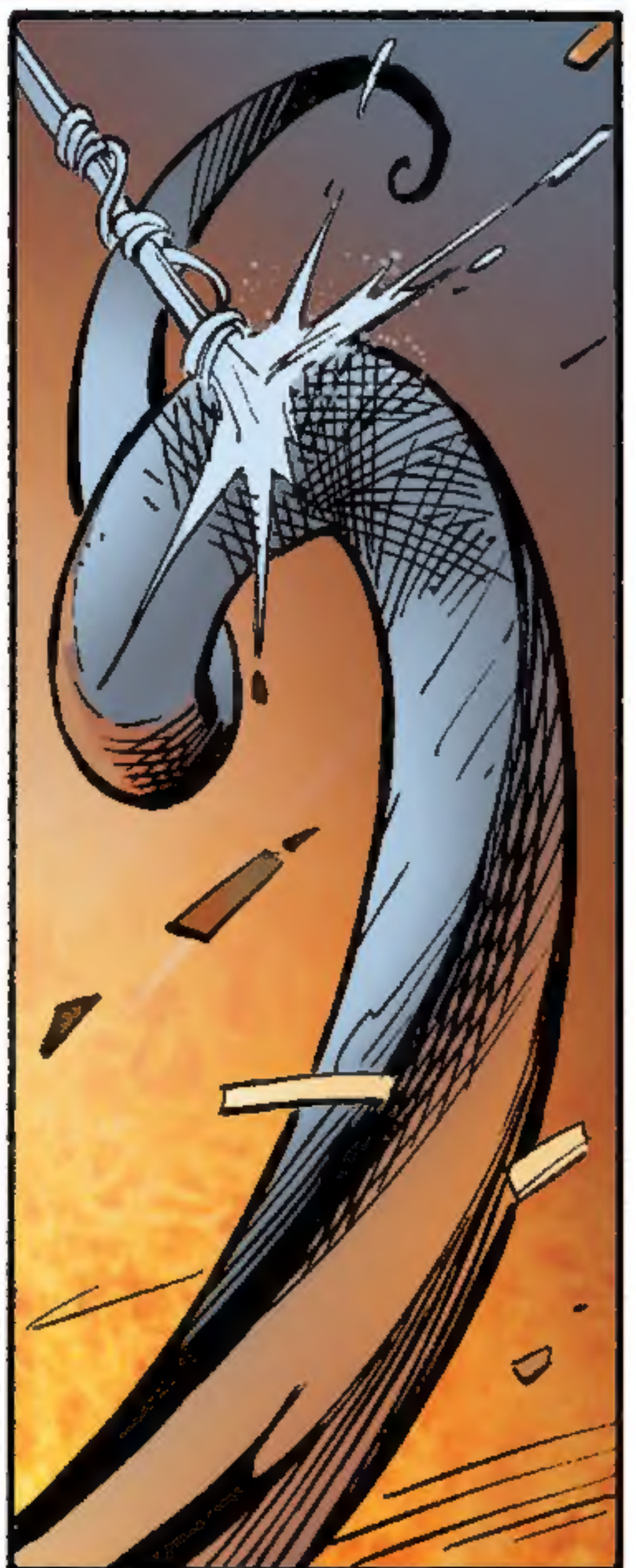
BUT DON'T
MAKE IT SO
PERSONAL--

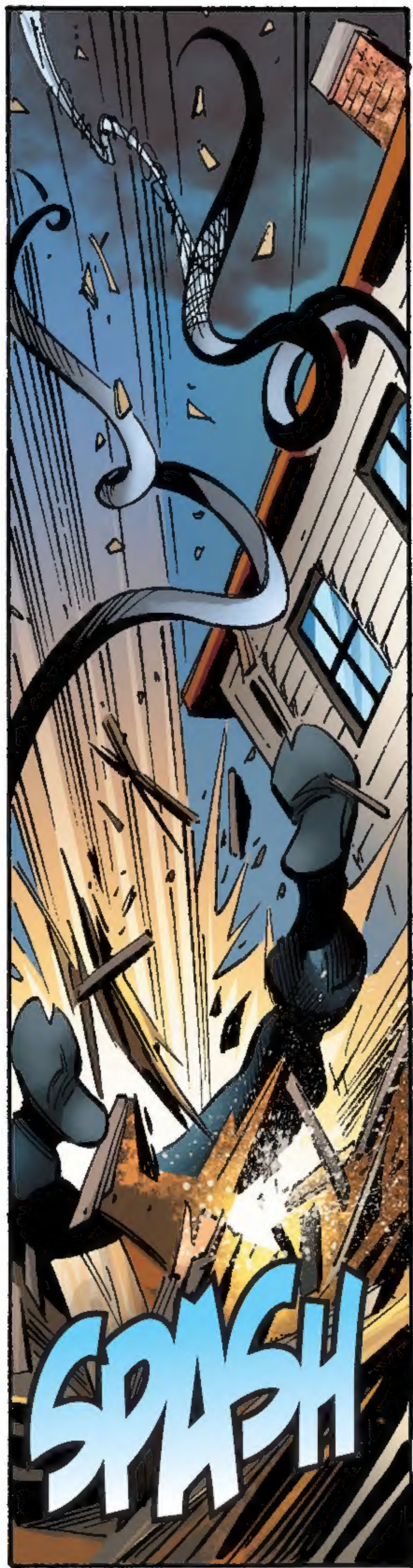
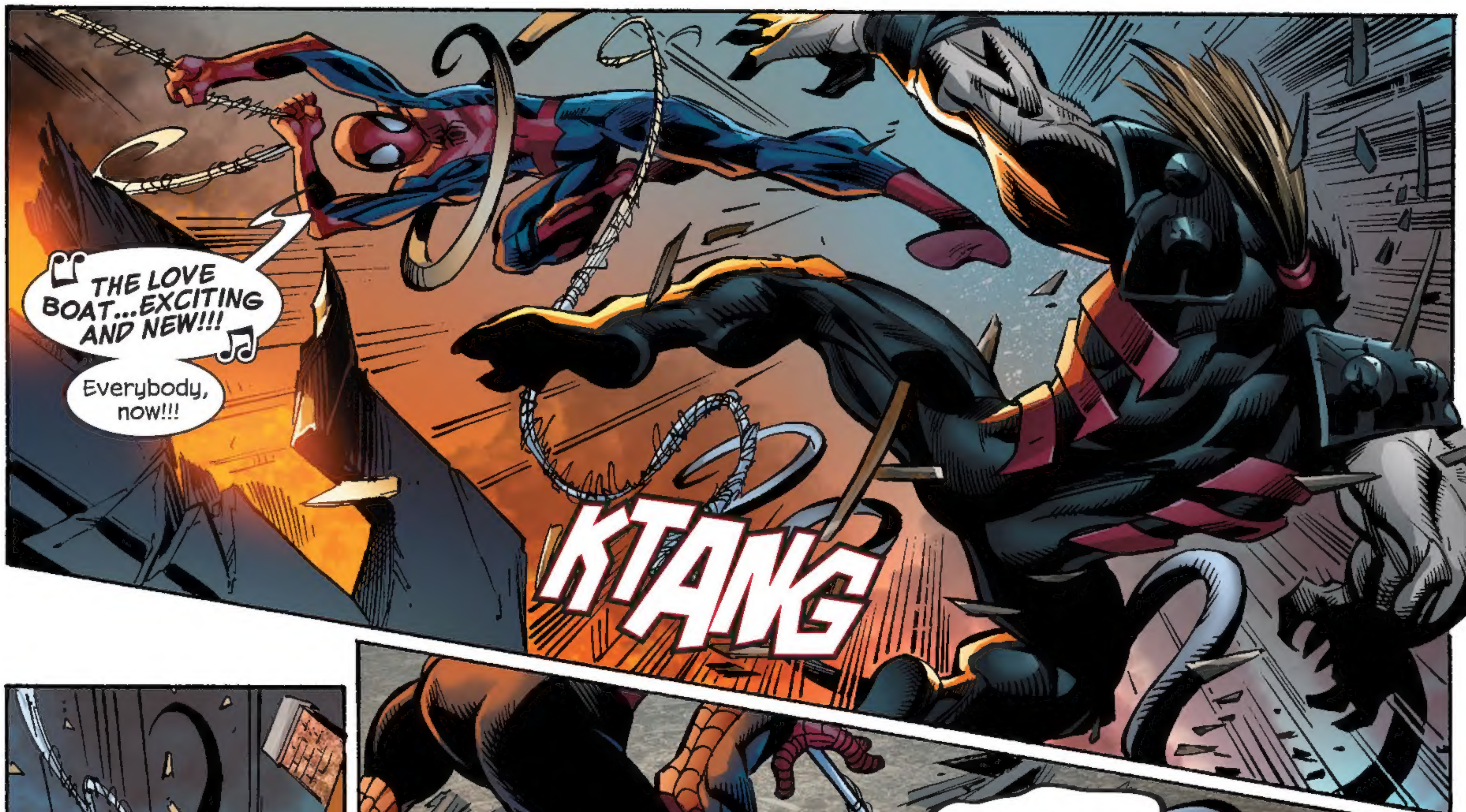


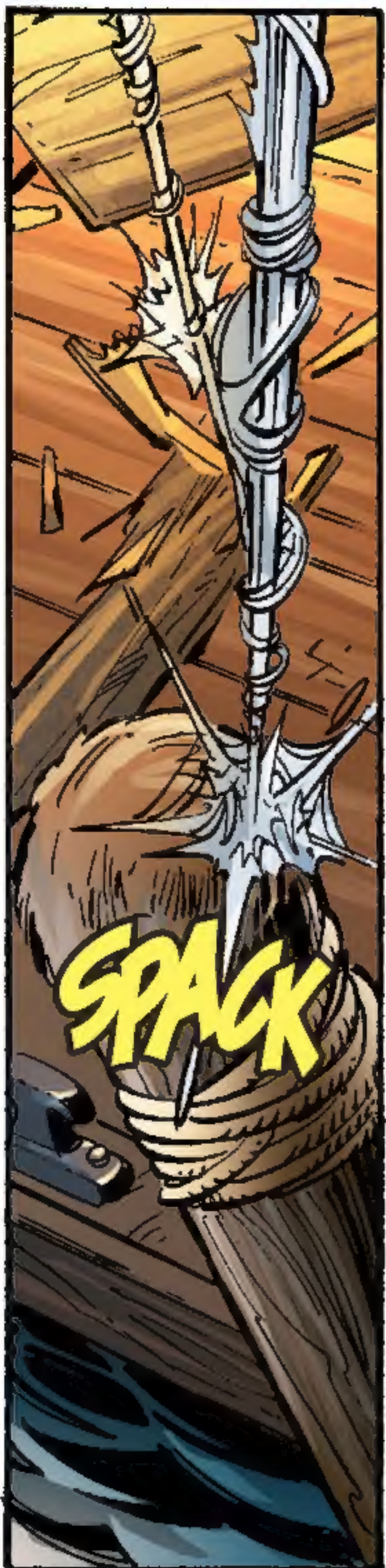
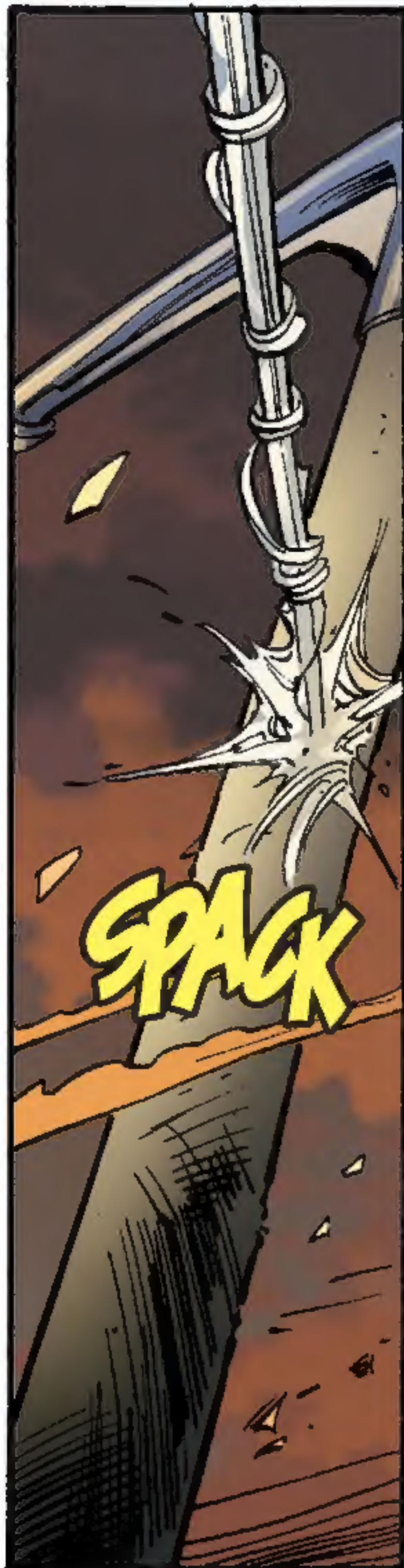
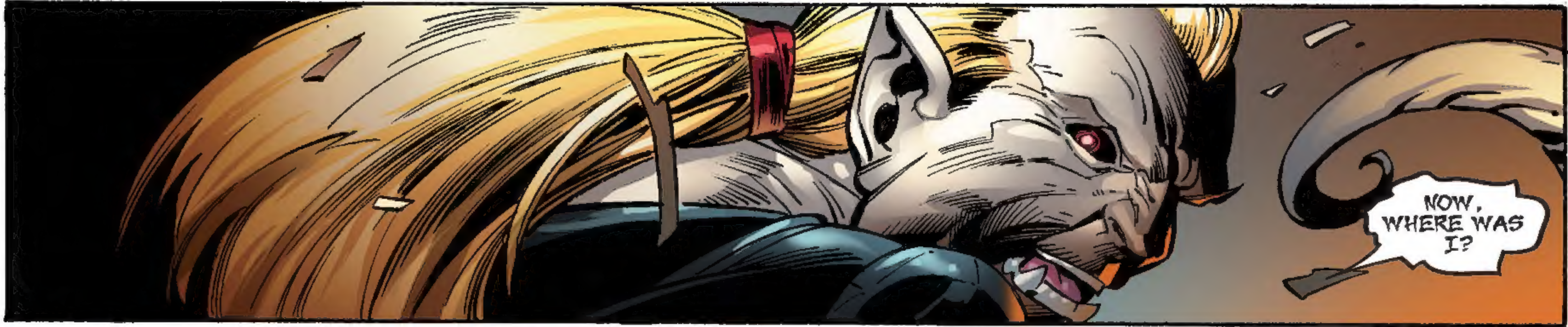
--THIS AIN'T
ABOUT YOU EVEN
IN THE SLIGHTEST
POSSIBLE...

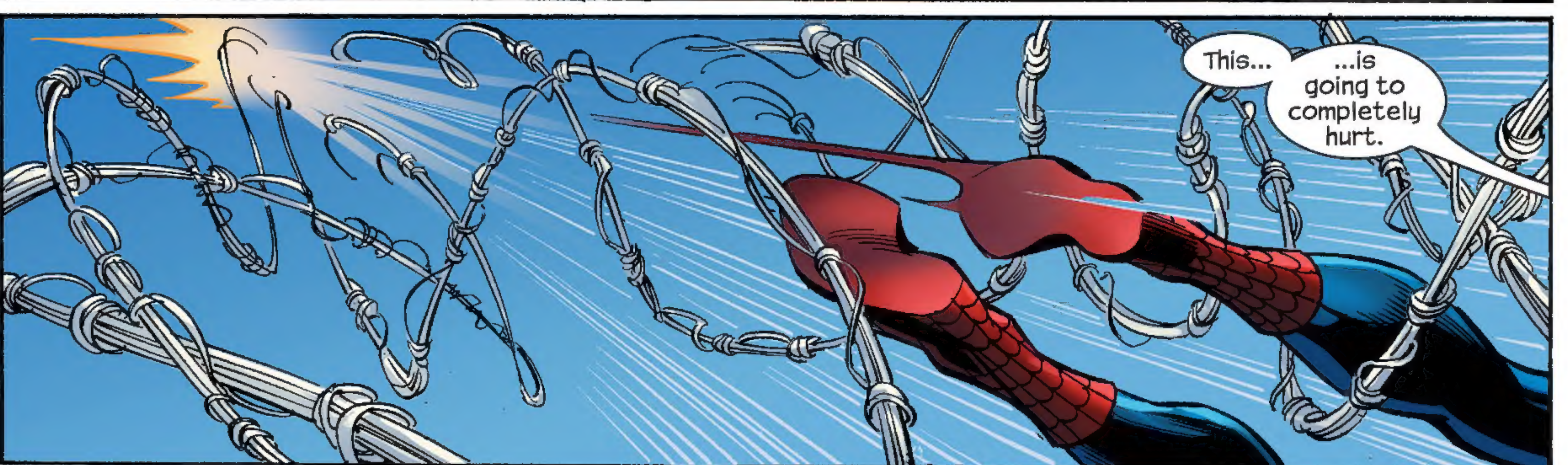
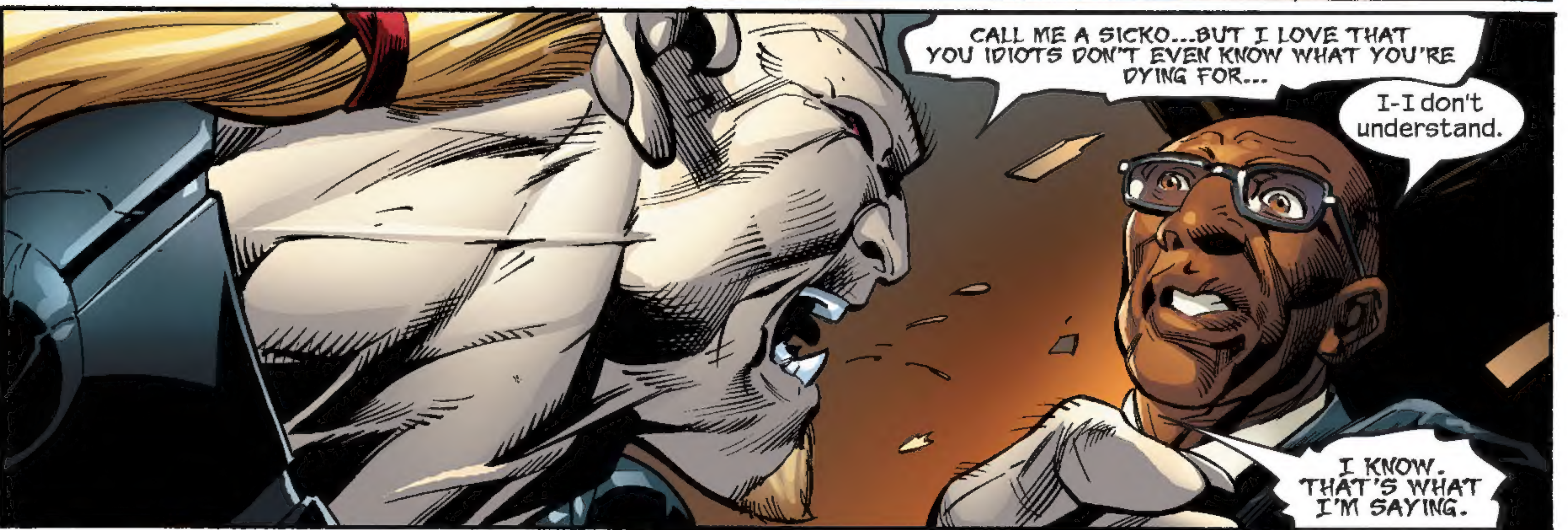
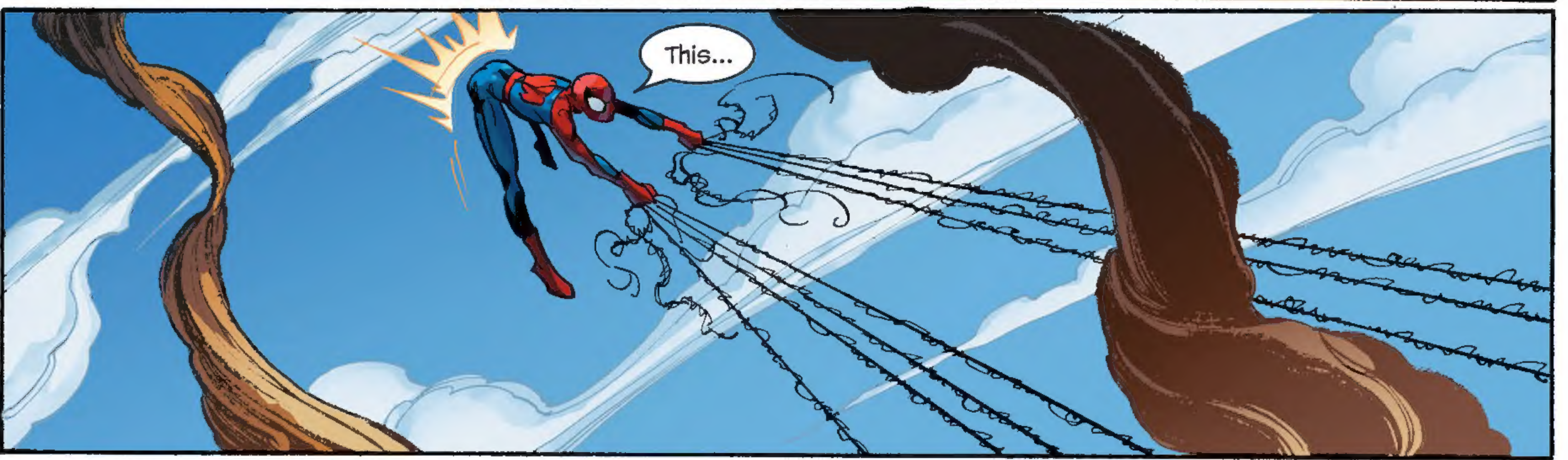
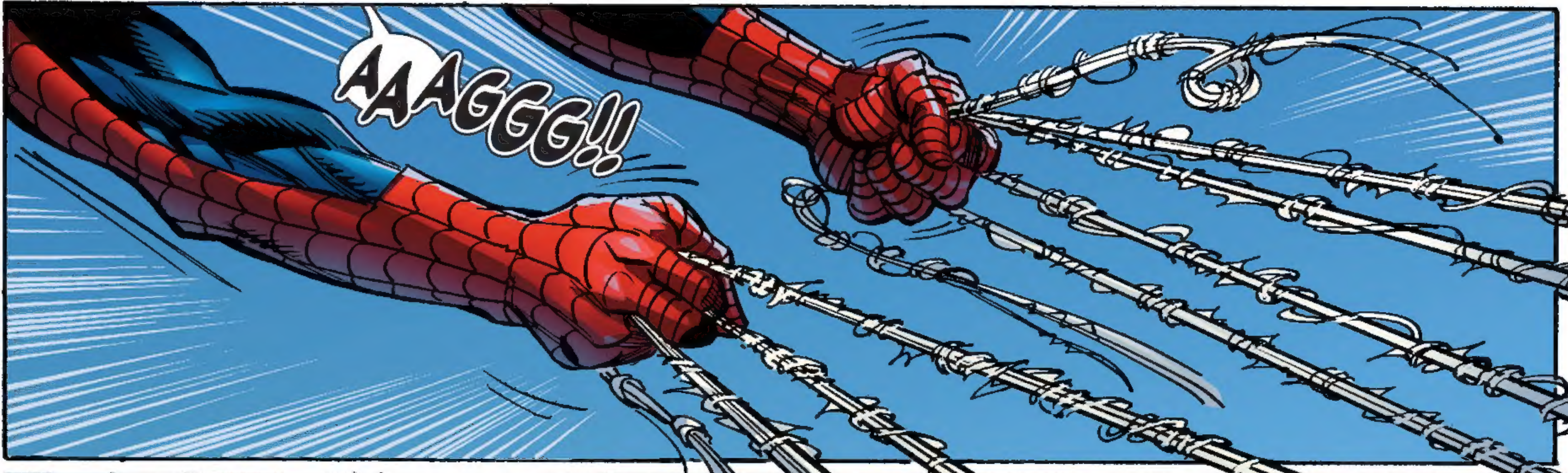


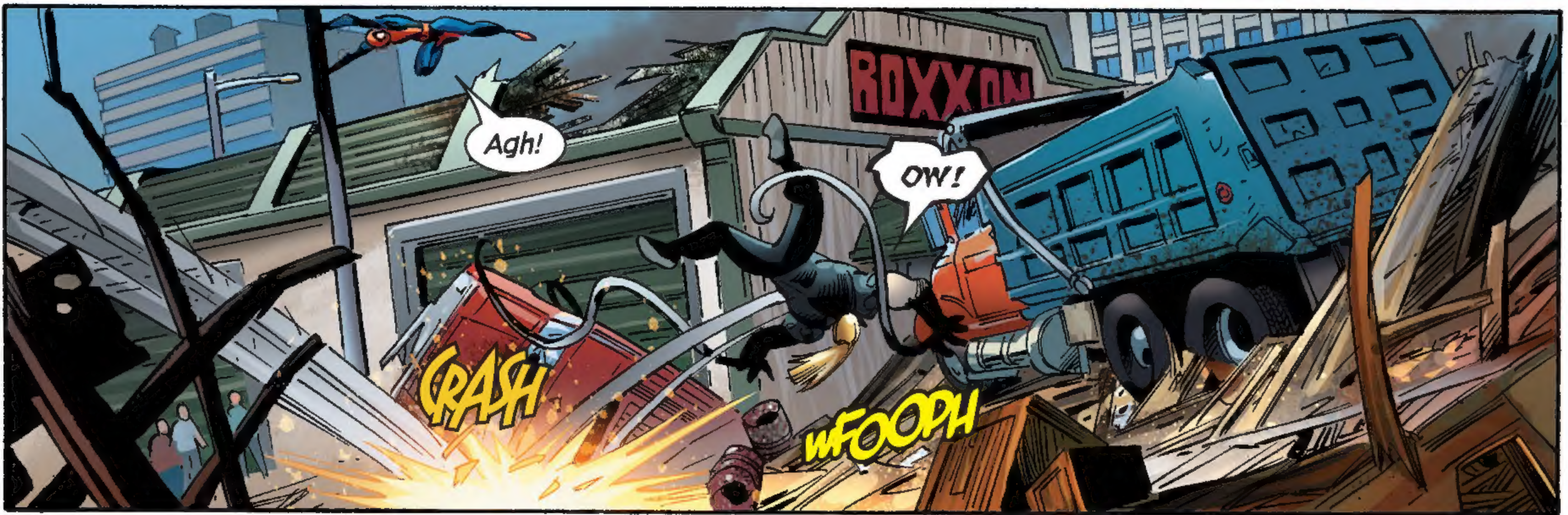
THWAP

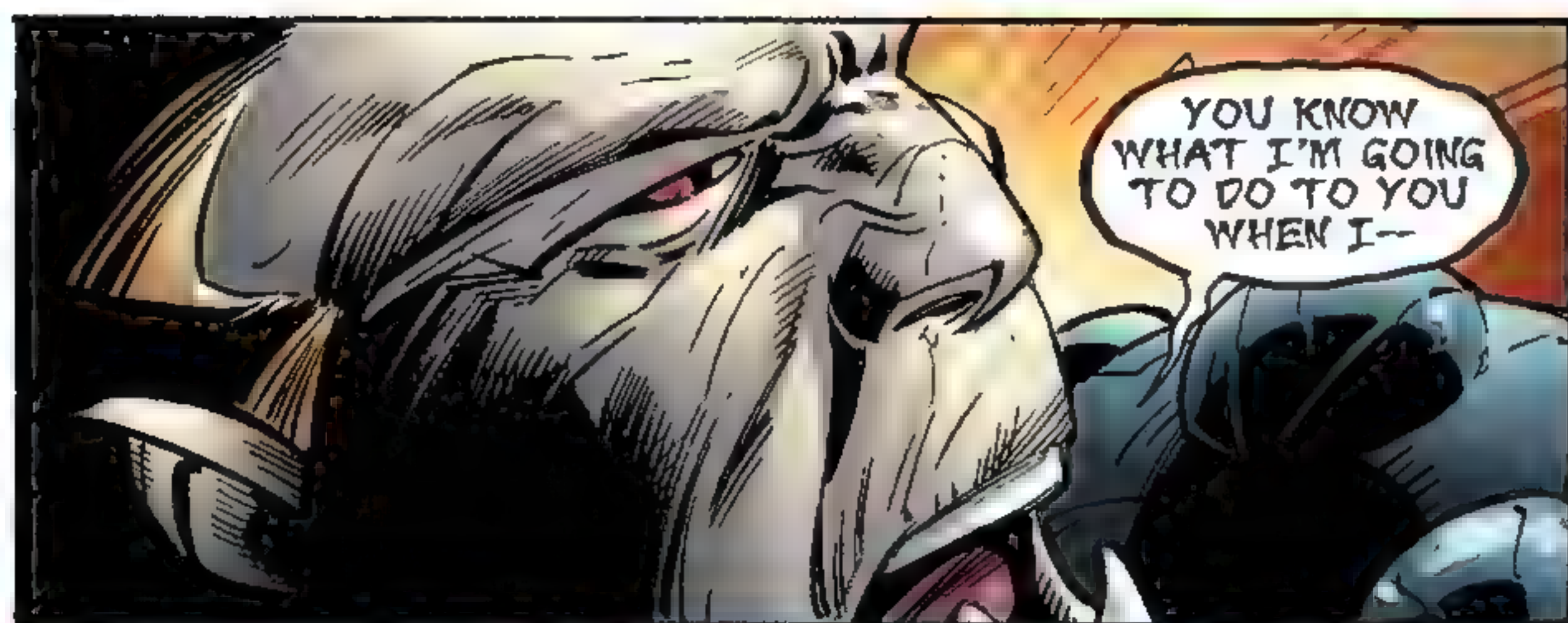














Omega Red?

I didn't name him.

And Spider-Man?

Yeah! The cops came and Spider-Man...he just up and left.

And this Omega Red?



Cops called some federal agency--

S.H.I.E.L.D.

Yeah. And they took him away in this big round thing.

It's a Stark 554-alpha wave power neutralizer.

Uh, okay. I - I couldn't believe he was still alive.



Okay, I'm going to have to get you to get your people out of here.

We're going to do a full sweep of the area for toxins and then we'll start the cleanup.

Toxins.

Well, yeah, he's a mutant assassin. He might have sprayed you with any number of things.

Uh...

Don't worry about it.

Uh...what's this going to cost?

If your insurance is paid up... nothing.

This is a nightmare.

Eh. This isn't bad at all.

You've seen worse?



You see what the Hulk did downtown?

I heard that was a hoax.

What?

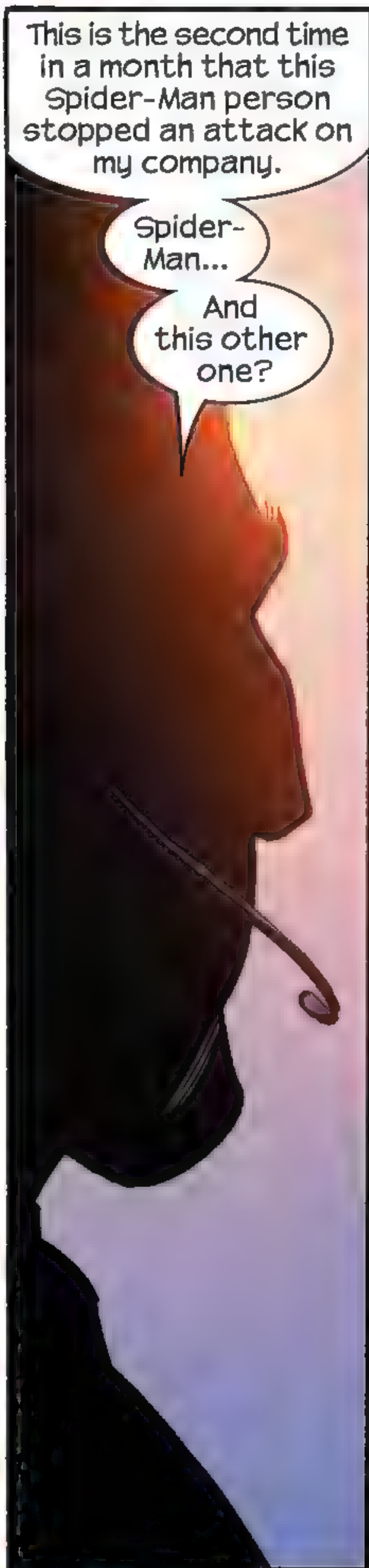
I heard it--

Sir? Yes. Spider-Man.

That's confirmed.



Yes, sir,
Mr. Roxxon.



This is the second time
in a month that this
Spider-Man person
stopped an attack on
my company.

Spider-
Man...
And
this other
one?



According to those
who would know...
Omega Red is in
S.H.I.E.L.D. custody.

All I know about him
is he's a work-for-hire
albino, mutant Russian
that volunteered
himself for some
guinea-pig crap
when he was in
prison.

He's kind of new
in the freelance world.



"Kind of
new."
He blew up an
entire cargo ship
and a dock with it.
I want to know
why!

He's in
S.H.I.E.L.D.
custody. Even
I can't get
to him.

Spider-Man
isn't.

What would
you like me
to do, sir?

I'd like
to talk to this
Spider-Man.

He *knows* who
is attacking my
company with these
work-for-hire
goons.

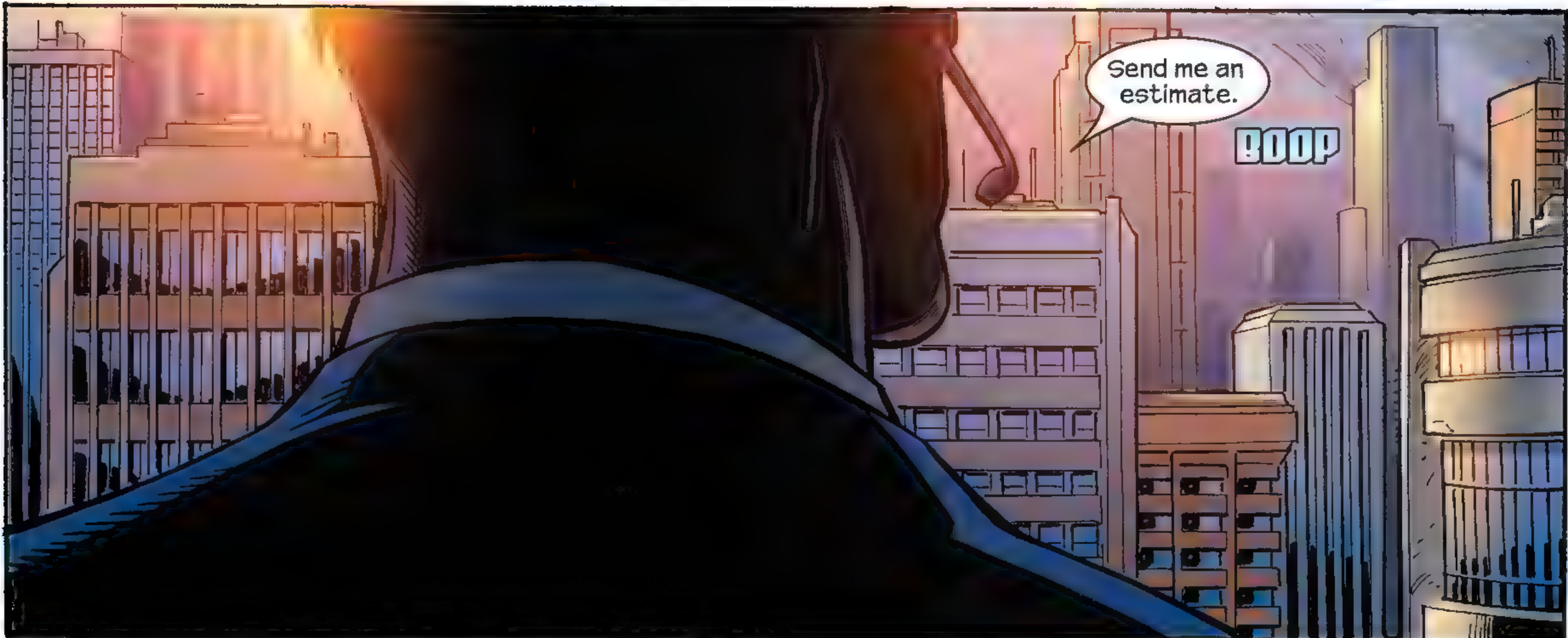
I want to
know what *he* knows
and *how* he knows it.



I'll
need my
men.

This going
to cost me?

Um...
yes.



Send me an
estimate.

BOOP

Two weeks ago

Chen?

Chen!??

I'm here,
Powell.

Jeez,
don't do
that.

Of course,
I'm here, I've
been here for
two weeks. Where
else am I going
to be?

Anything?

You need to
report at the top
of the hour- it's nine
minutes after.

Are you
serious?

If there was
something to
report, Powell,
I'd report it.

Hey, don't
get snotty.
You're getting
paid.

Barely.

That's
the world of
freelance,
baby.

Powell, this
isn't what I want
to do all day,
okay?

Stand here
waiting for a guy
in his tights to
swing over
my--

Boys!!!

Radio
silence means
what?

Sorry Silver,
I was just trying
to get the top
of the hour.

You're still
talking.

Hey, Silver, if
the man wants to
see Spider-Man so
bad why doesn't he
just rent the
movie?

Did you
see that
movie?

I kinda
liked it.

...guys.



Boys, I'm docking you if I hear one more word.

Uh, Silver?

I'm not kidding!!

I have him!!!

You have him?

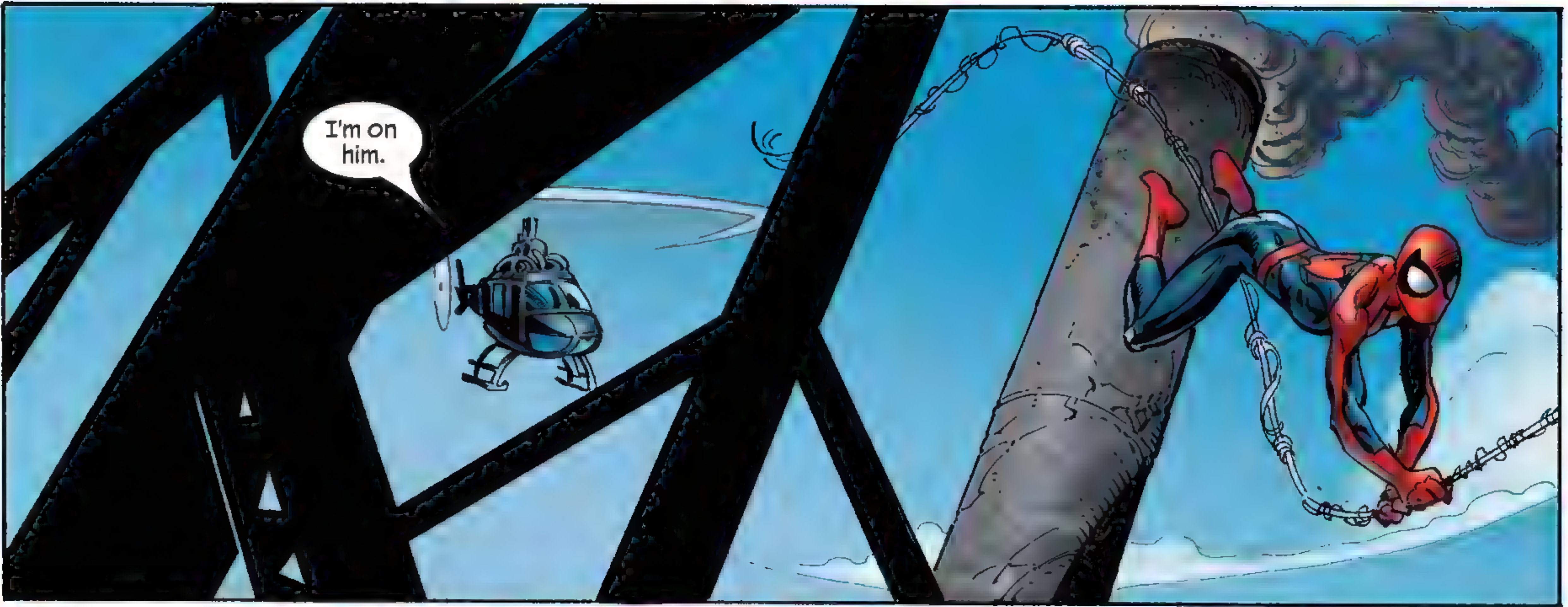
C-confirmed! He's heading towards the Queensborough.

Wildpack, move!!

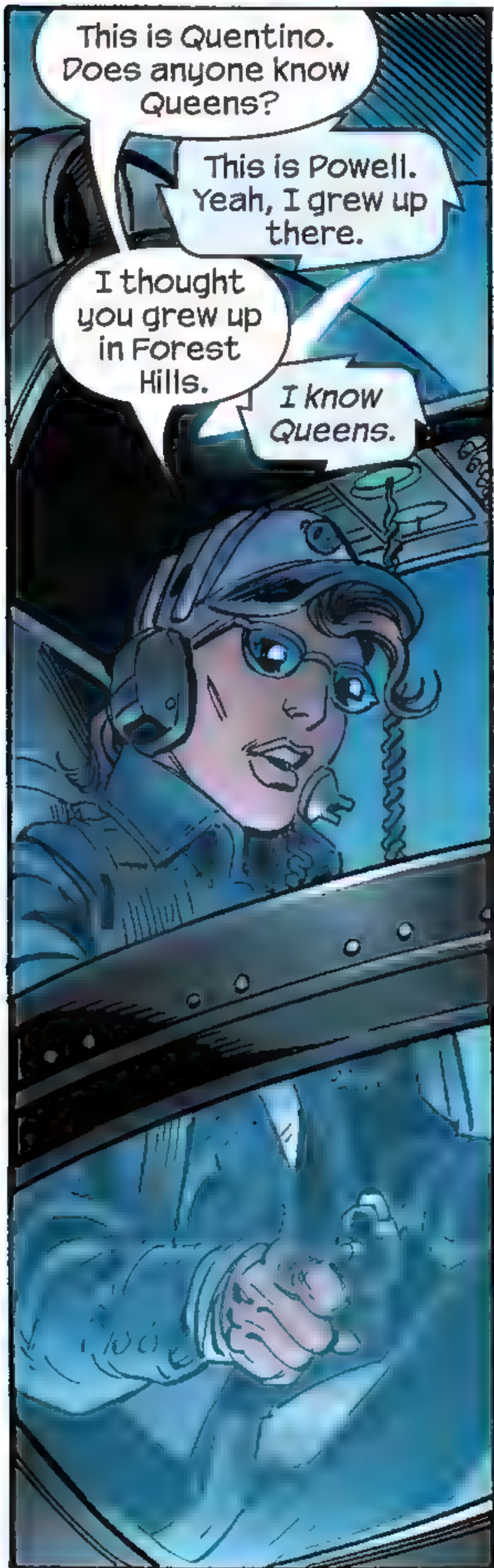
He's headed towards Queens! That's you, Quentino.

I don't-I- I see him!

I see him!



I'm on him.



This is Quintino. Does anyone know Queens?

This is Powell. Yeah, I grew up there.

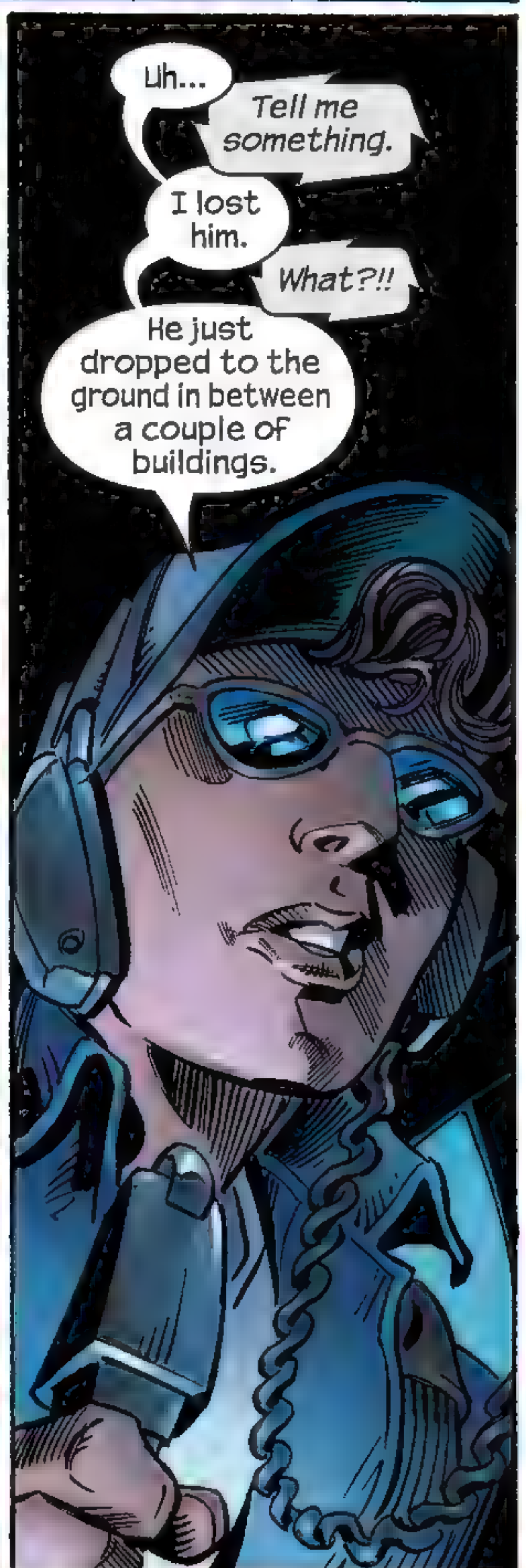
I thought you grew up in Forest Hills.

I know Queens.



He cleared the bridge.

Stay on him! We're en route.



Uh...

Tell me something.

I lost him.

What?!!

He just dropped to the ground in between a couple of buildings.



You lost him???

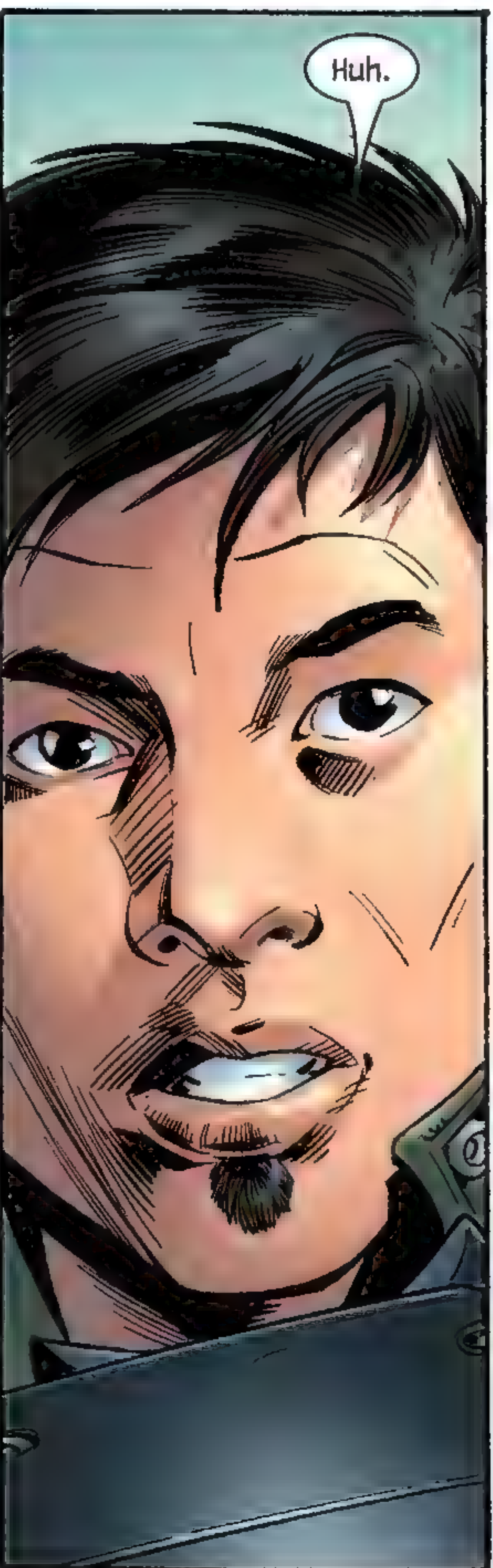
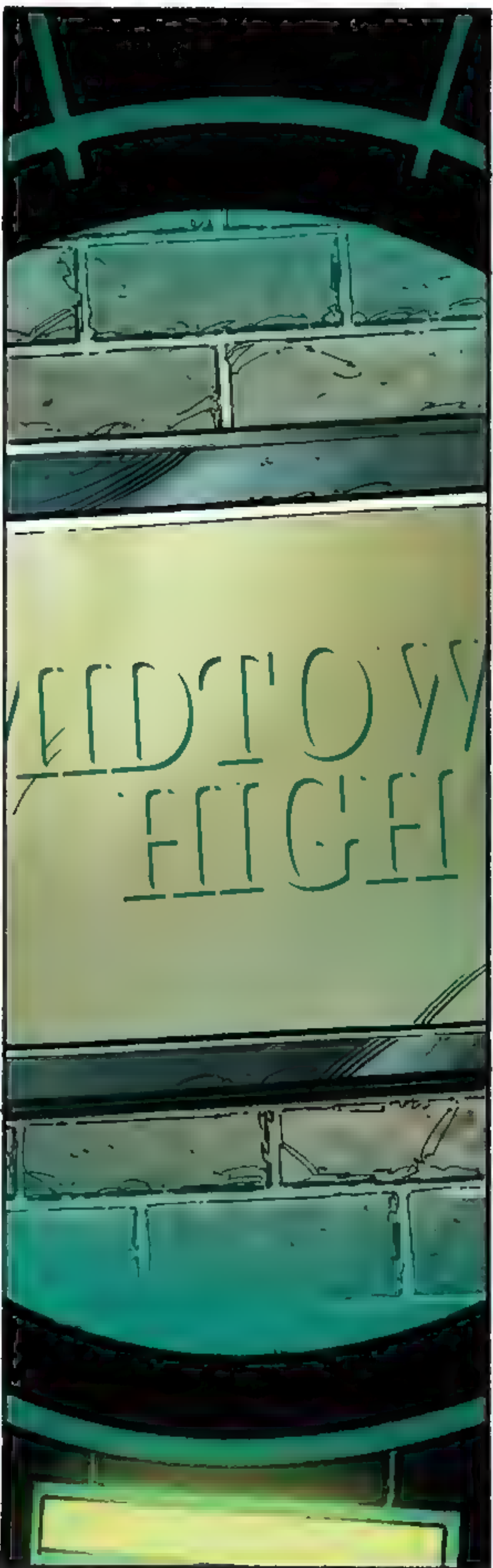
He dropped to the ground, Sable!!

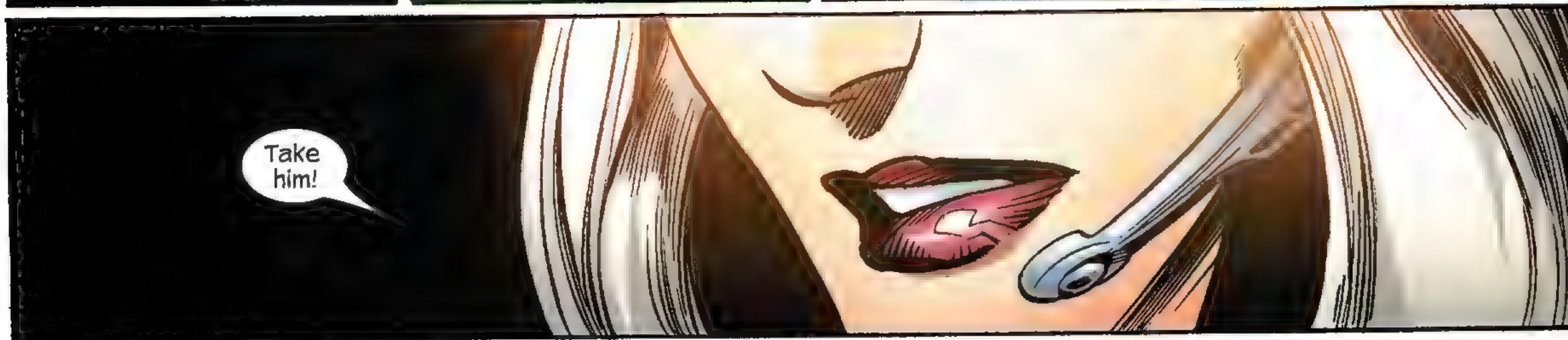
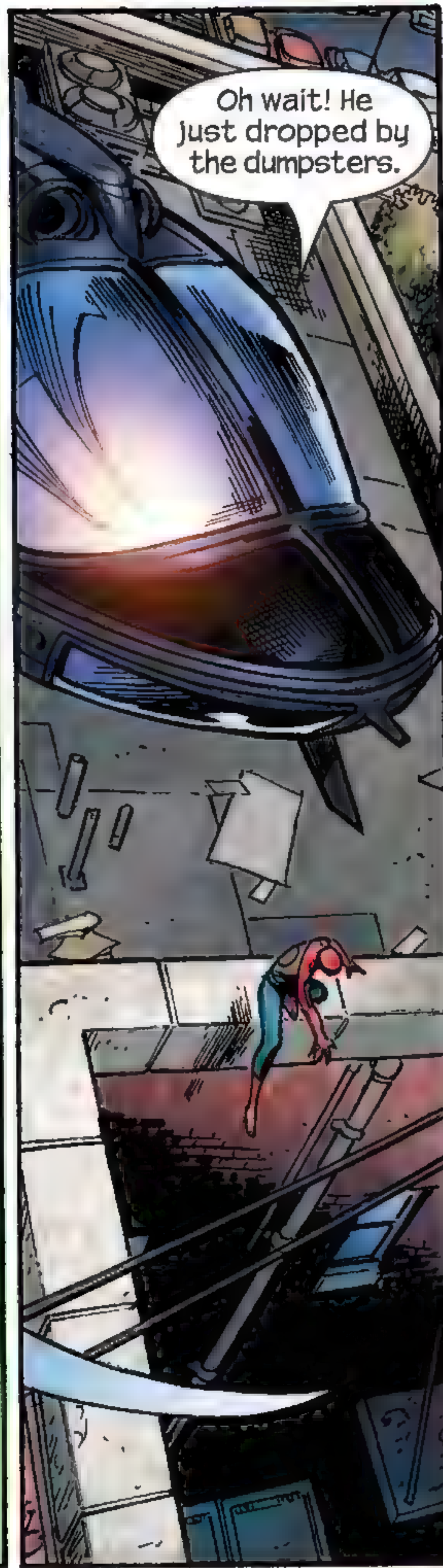
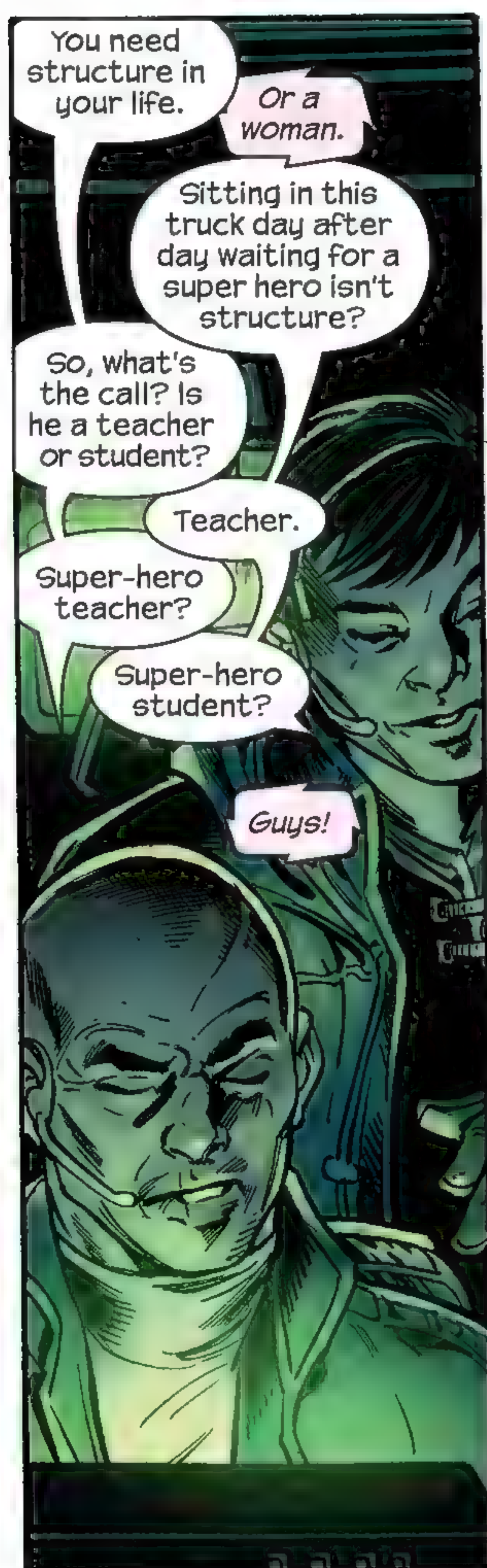
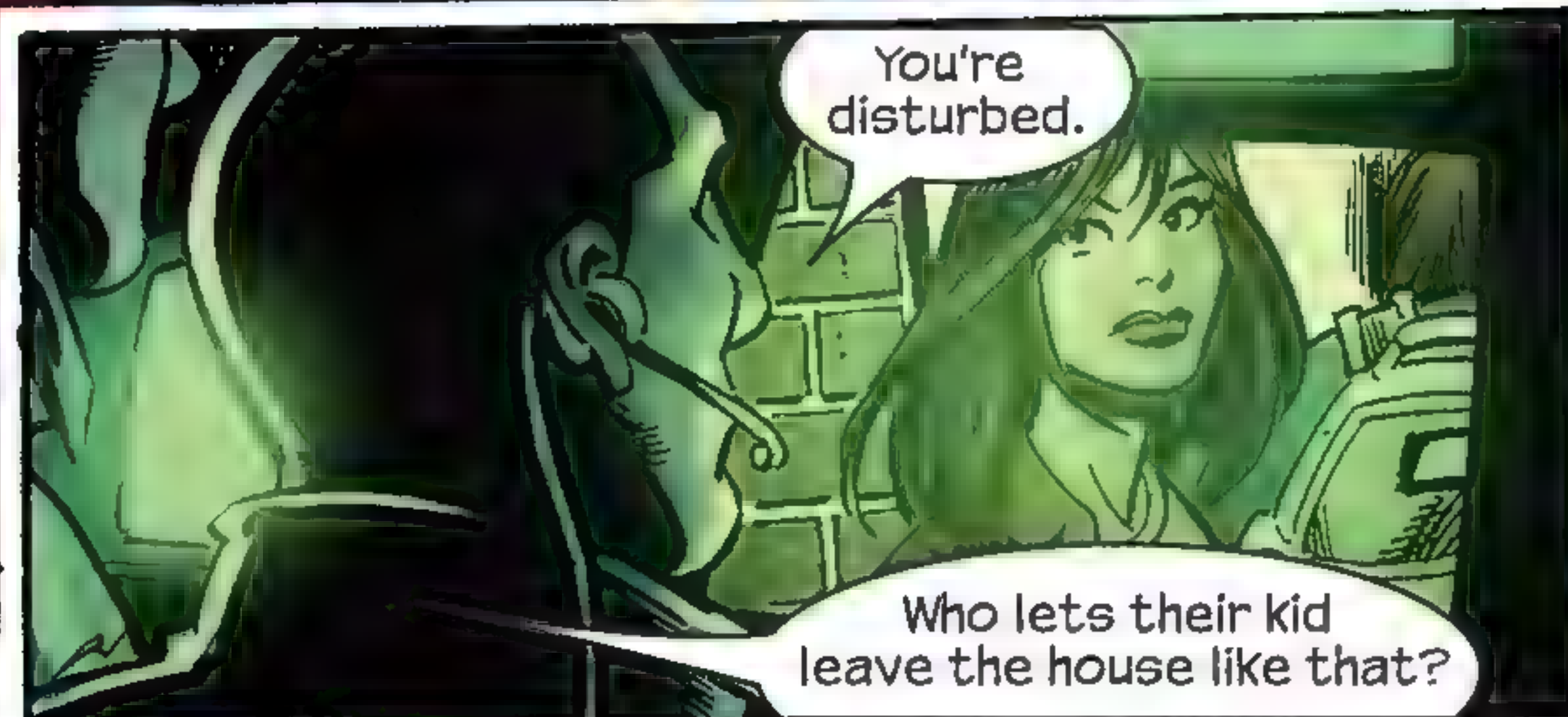
What should I do--jump out of my copter??

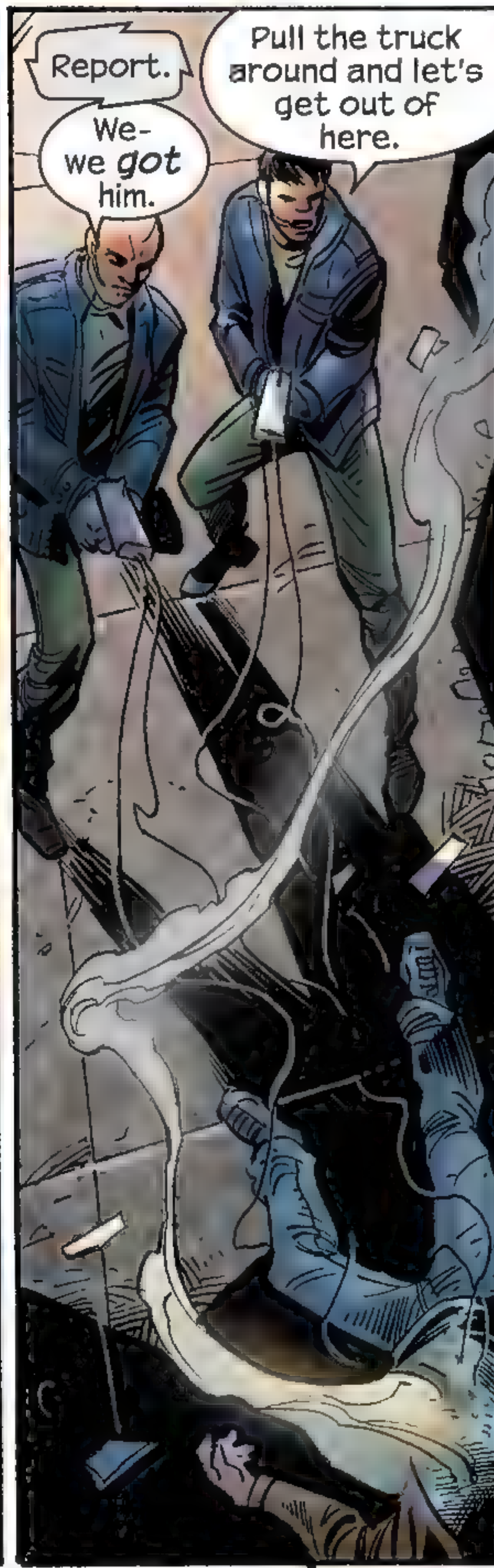
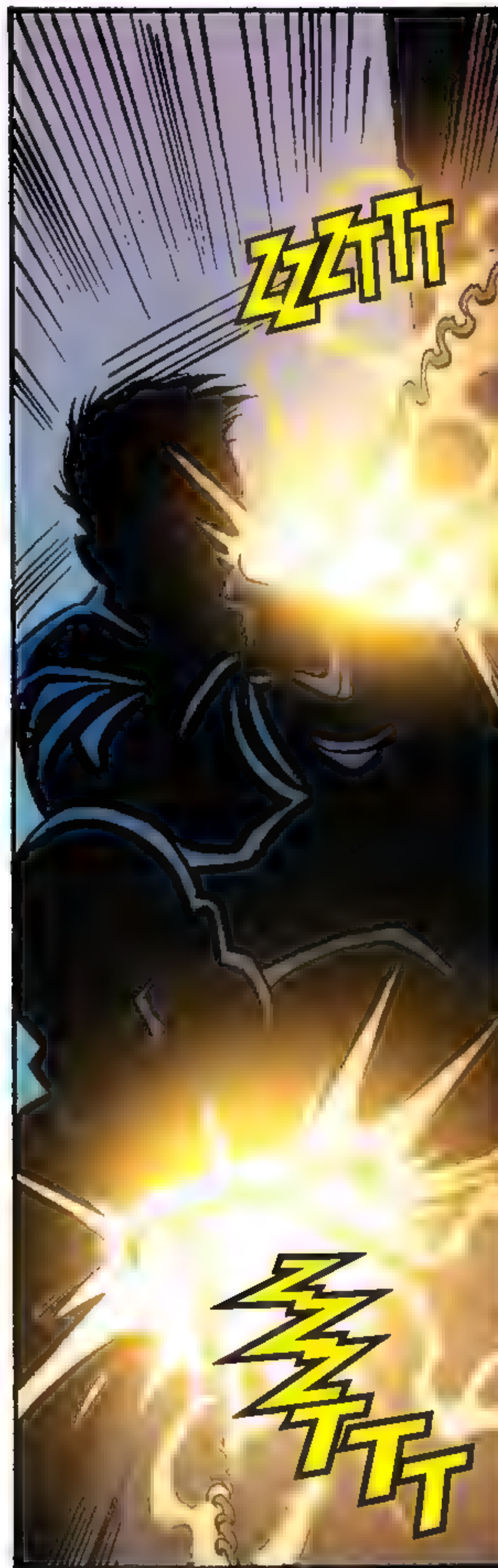
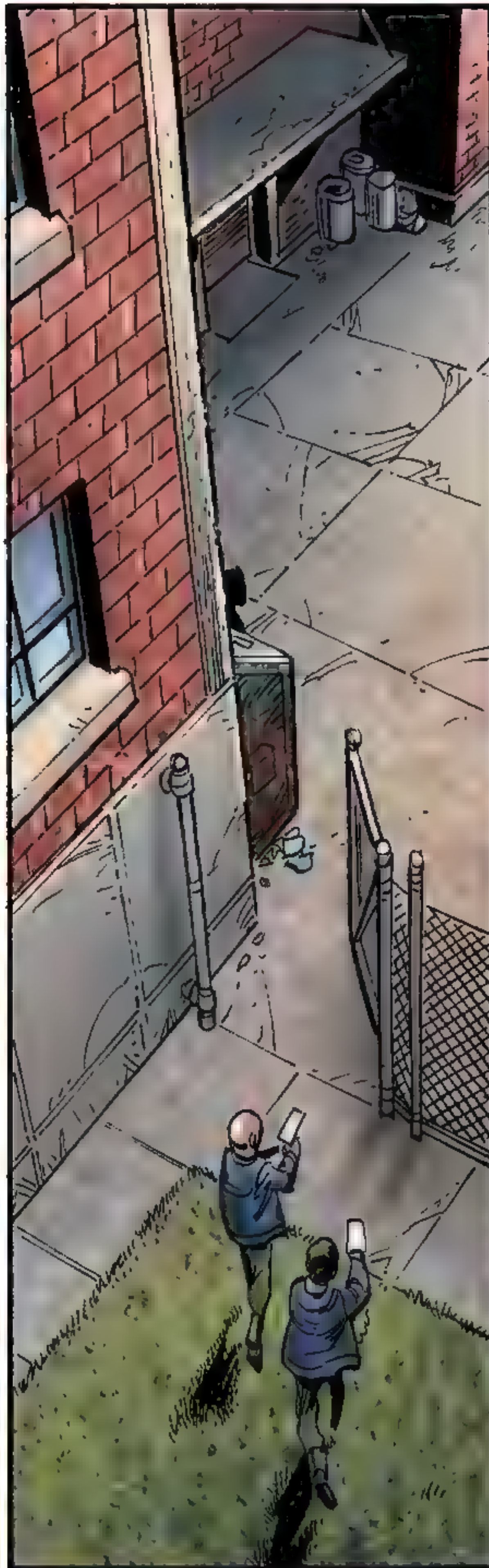
If you don't find him, I would.

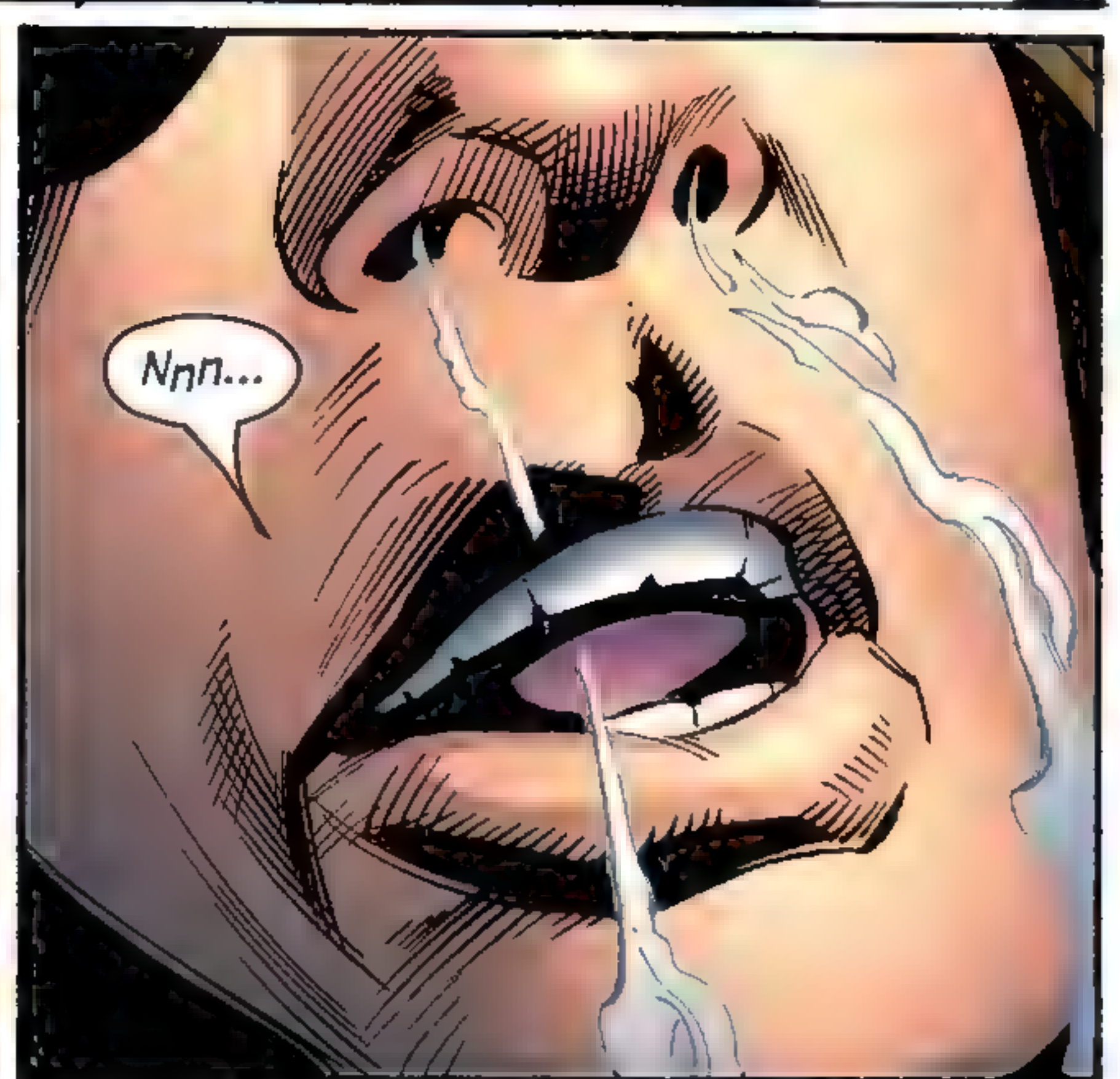
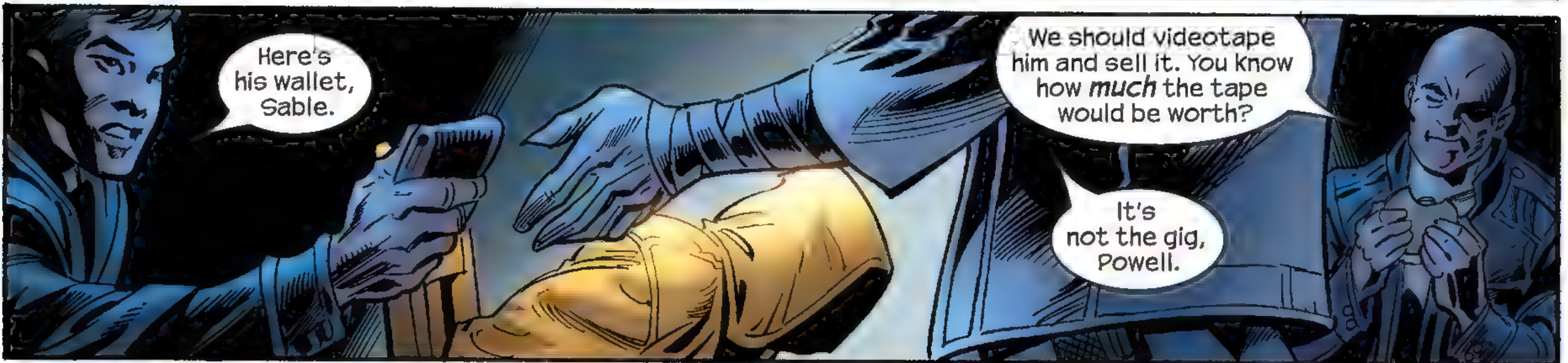


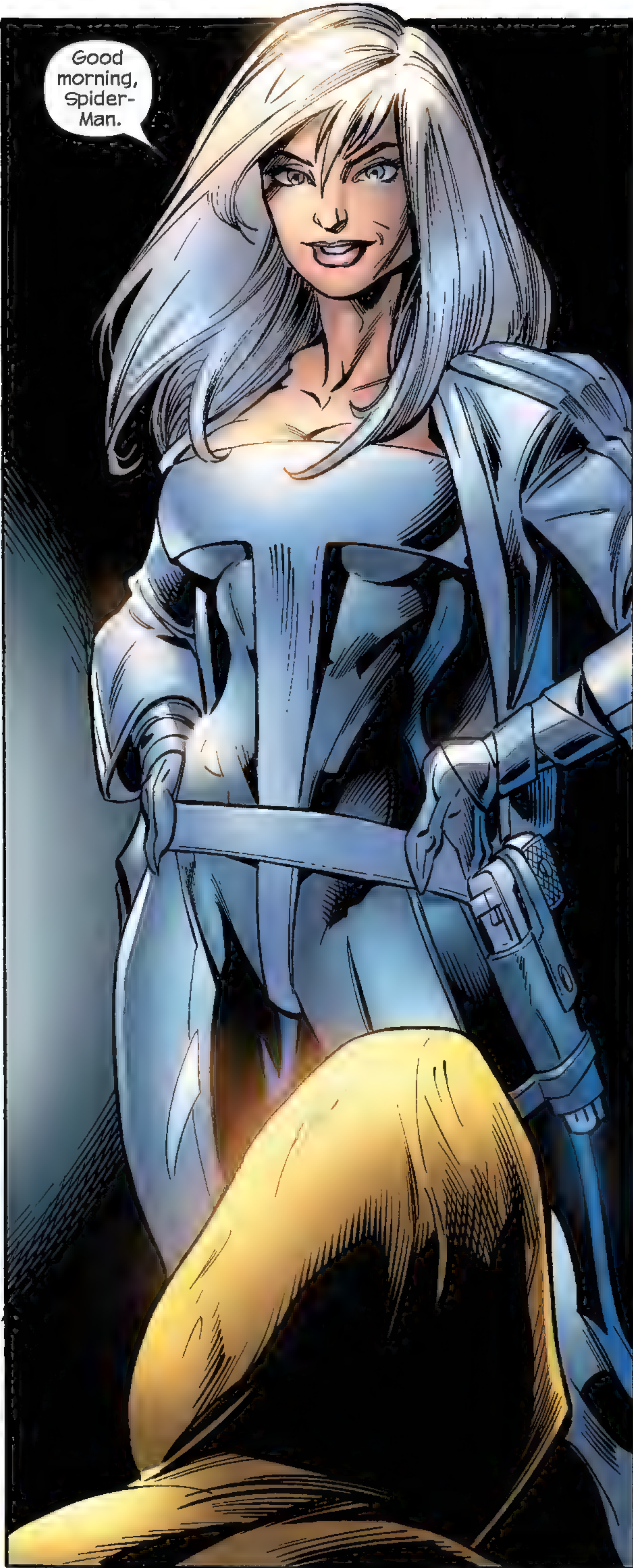
One week ago



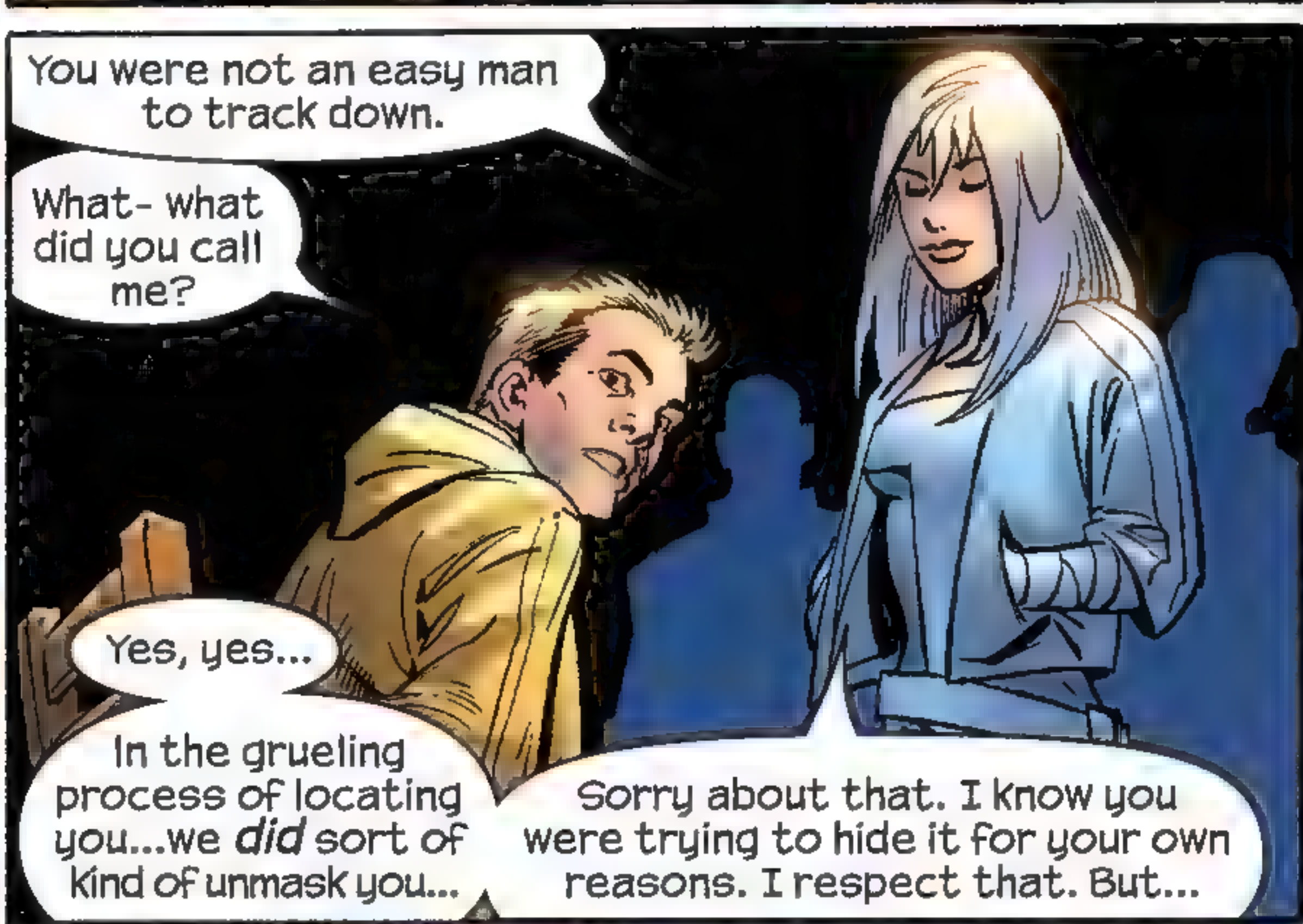
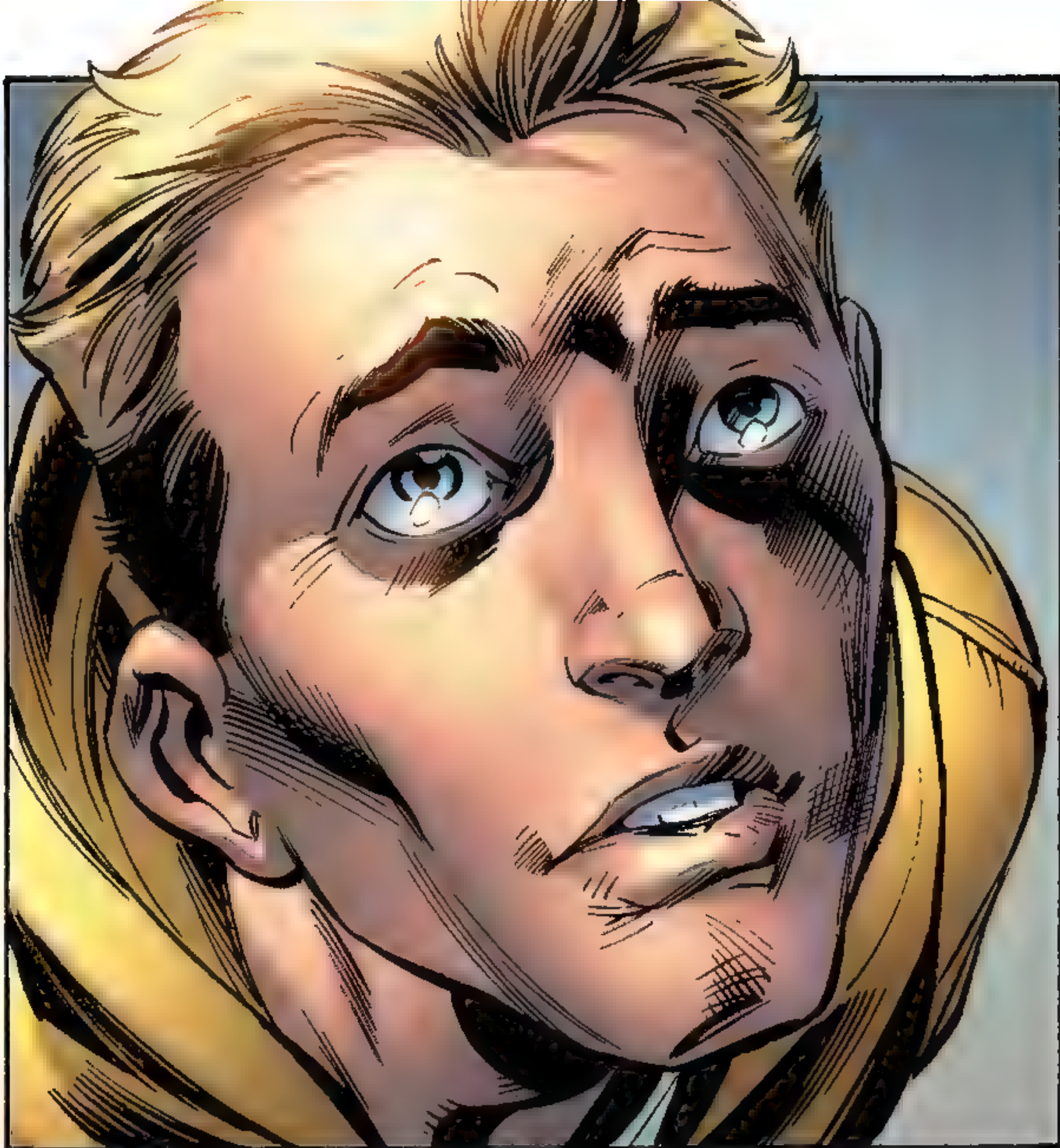








Good morning, Spider-Man.



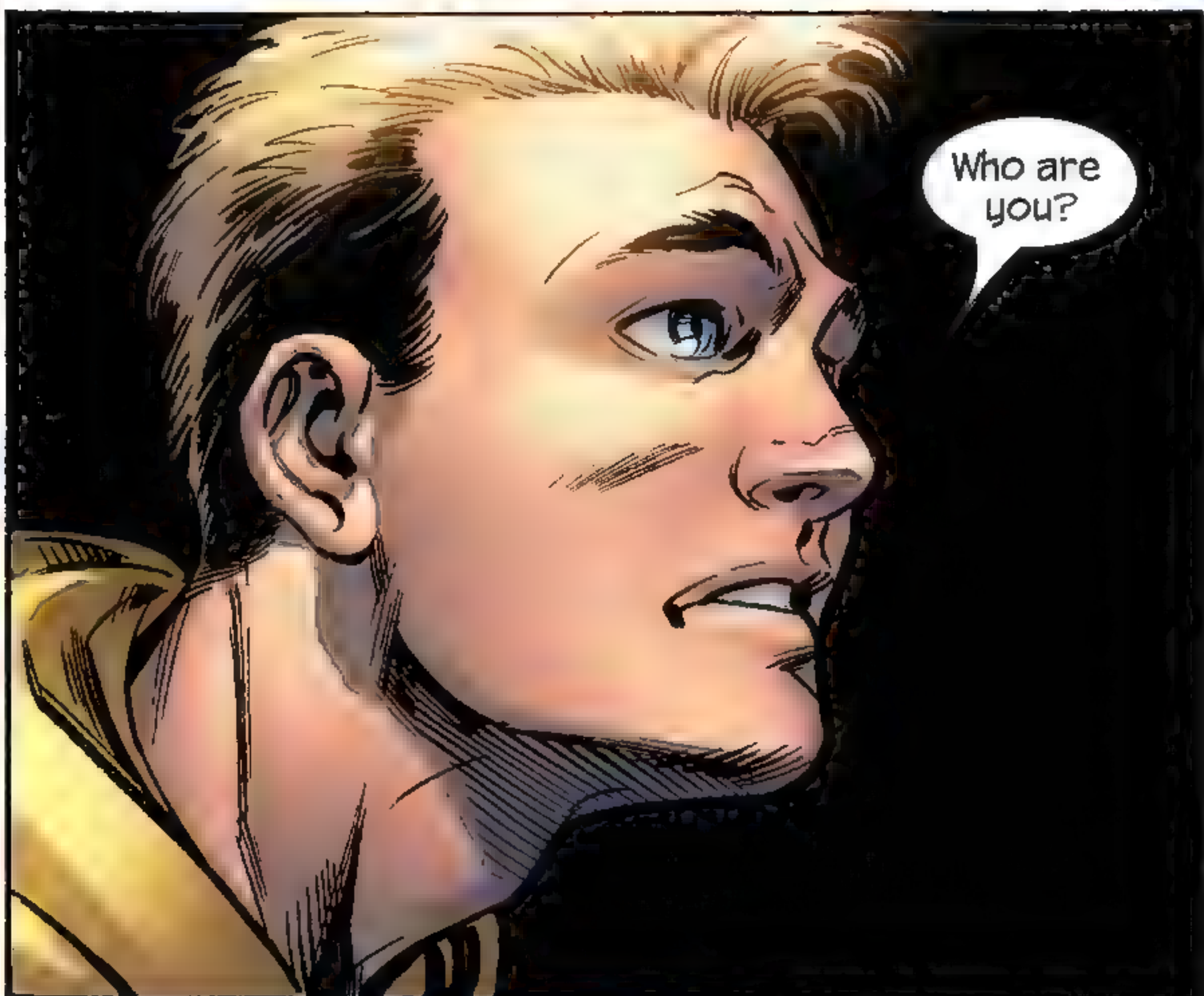
You were not an easy man to track down.

What- what did you call me?

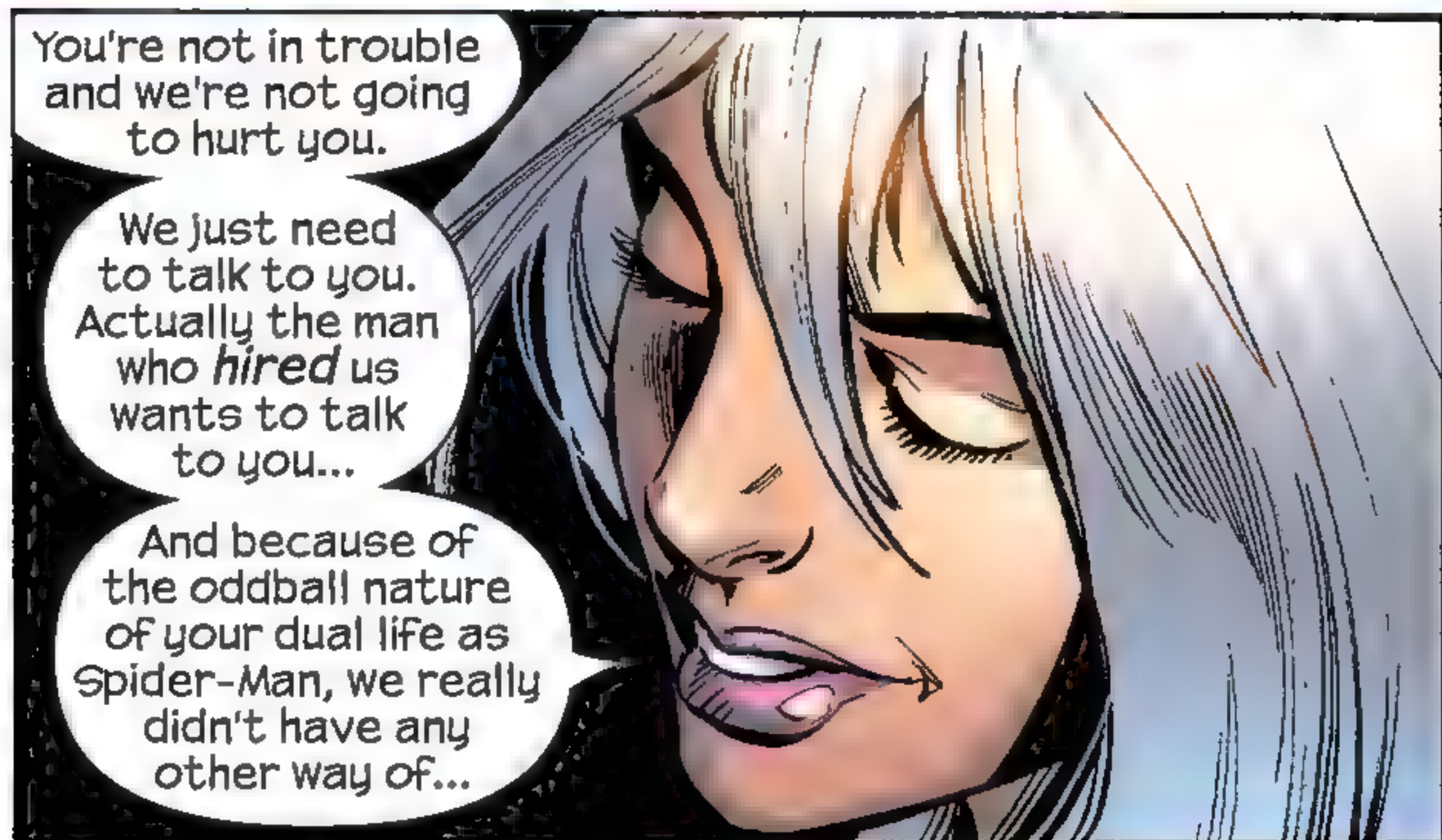
Yes, yes...

In the grueling process of locating you...we *did* sort of kind of unmask you...

Sorry about that. I know you were trying to hide it for your own reasons. I respect that. But...



Who are you?



You're not in trouble and we're not going to hurt you.

We just need to talk to you. Actually the man who *hired* us wants to talk to you...

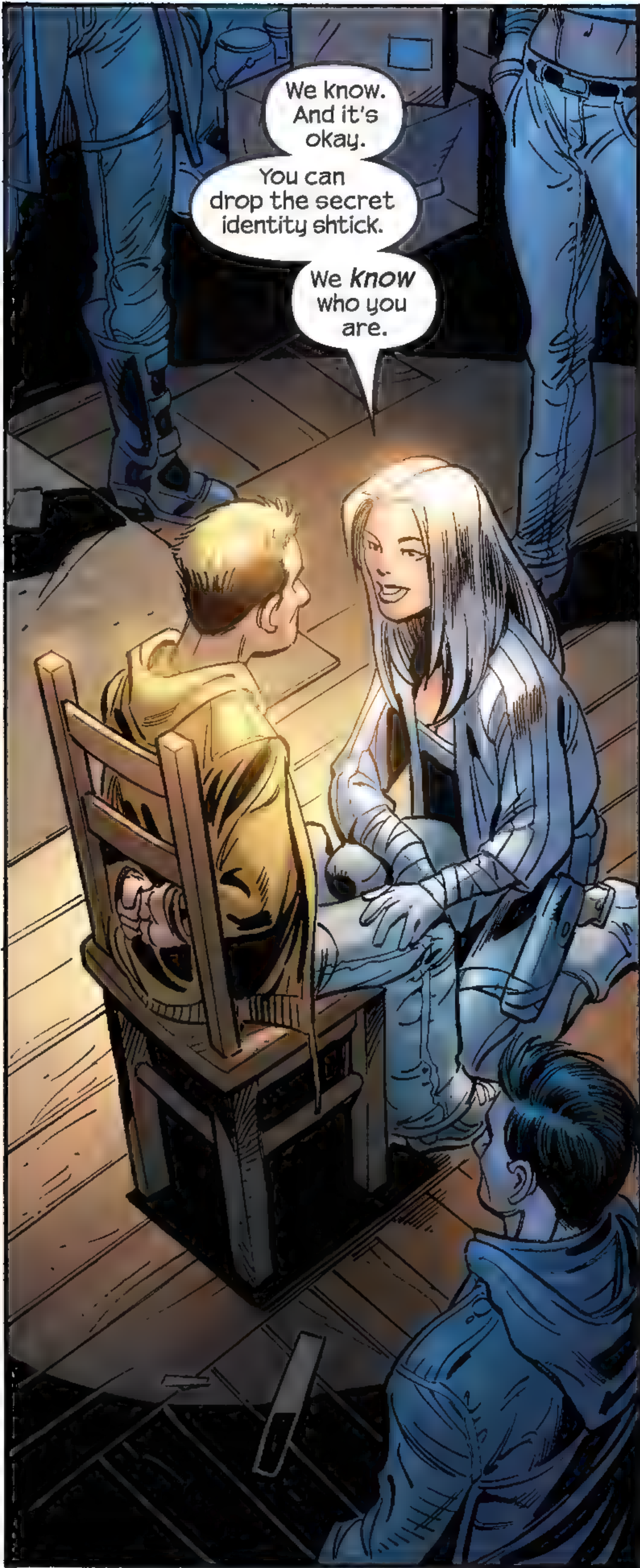
And because of the oddball nature of your dual life as Spider-Man, we really didn't have any other way of...



Spider-Man?

I'm- I'm not Spider-Man.

My- my name is Flash Thompson. I go to high school.



We know.
And it's
okay.
You can
drop the secret
identity shtick.

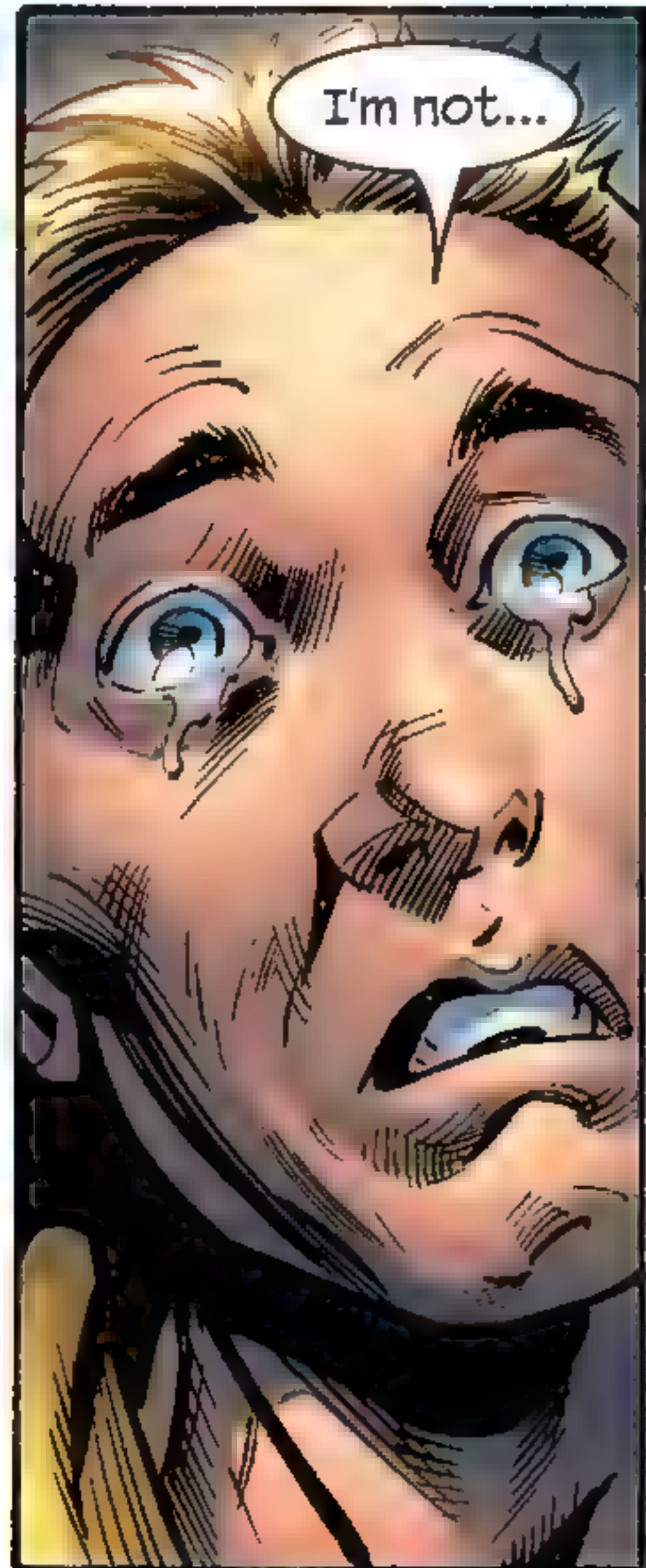
We *know*
who you
are.



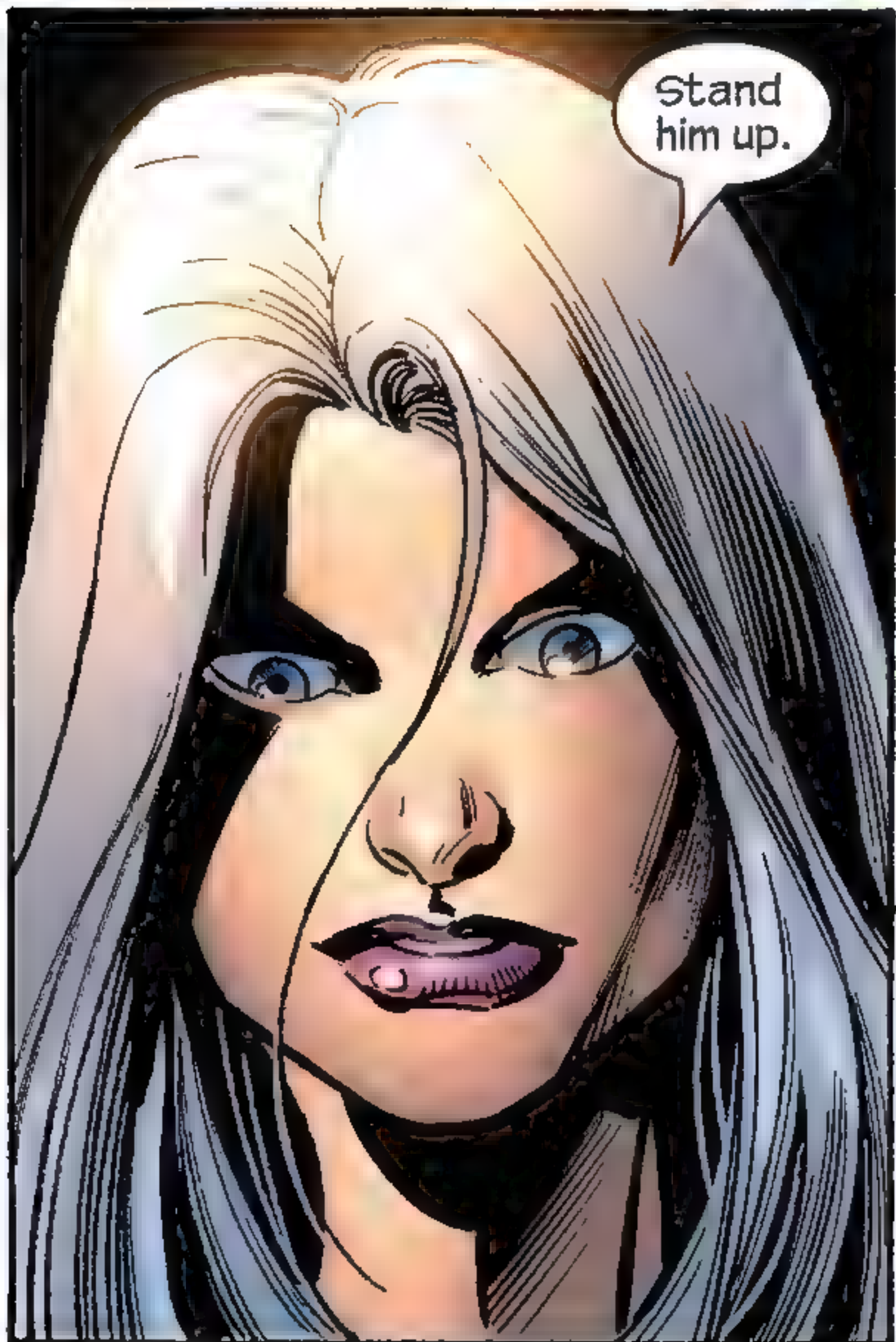
Is this a joke?
Are you pranking
me?
I'm- I'm
not Spider-
Man!!
What? Is this
gonna be on
MTV?



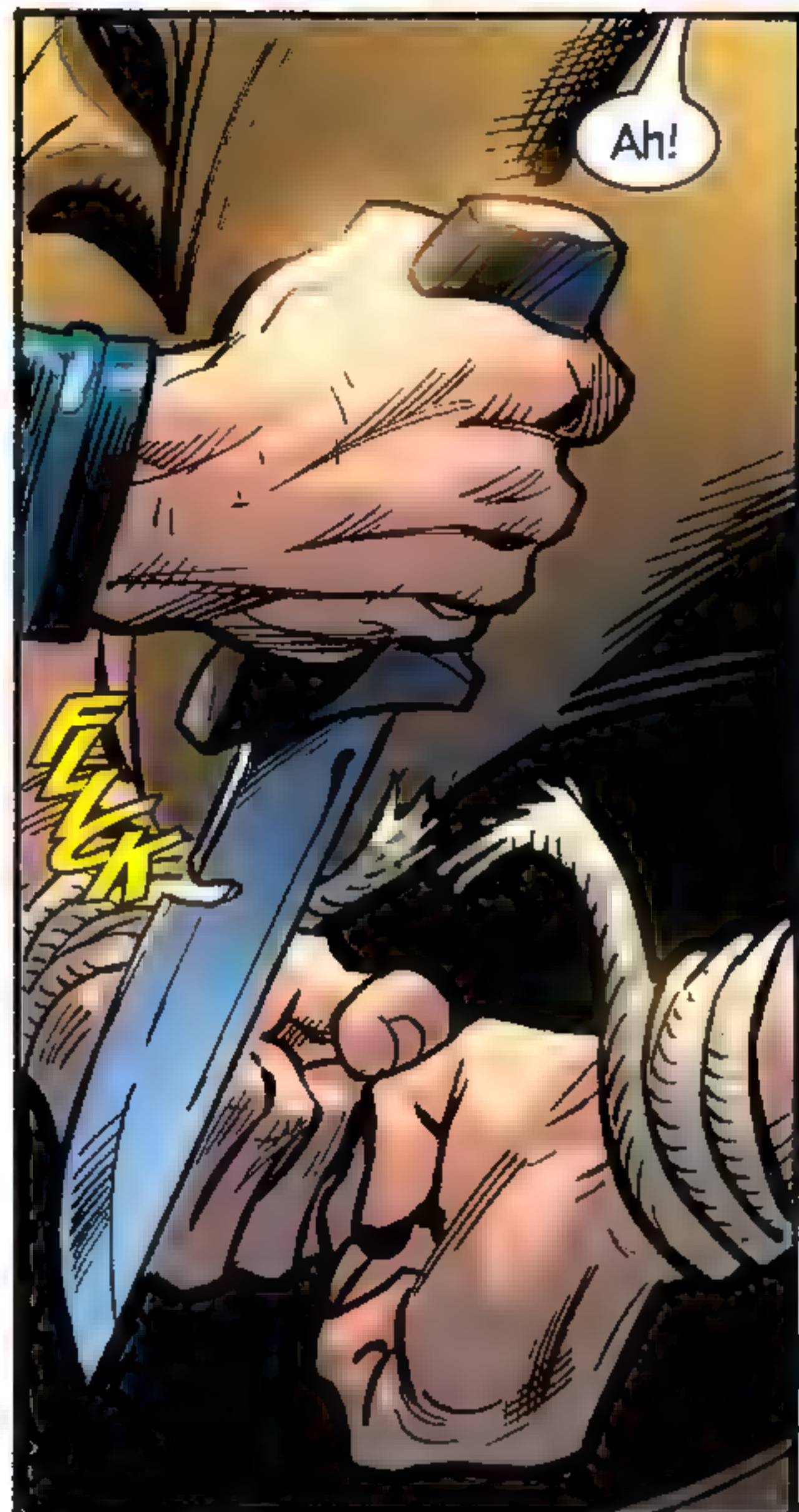
I- I go to high
school...



I'm not...



Stand
him up.



Ah!



I- I really don't
understand. I was
just--



WHACK



CRASH



That.
Is.
Not.
Spider-Man.

To be continued...

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN

Greeting, Mighty Marvelites! Before we get to your letters, we wanted to take a moment to bid farewell to colorist J.D. Smith. J.D. has moved on to some comic called *Wolverine* (and you can find his work on the *Ultimate Vision* flip book in this very comic!) and we'll all miss him.

But—we couldn't be more excited to welcome our new colorist, Justin Ponser! You probably know Justin from *Ultimate X-Men* and *Ultimate Fantastic Four*—and of course *Young Avengers*! We're honored he's brought his prestigious palette to our favorite book!

But now...letters!

I bought the first *Ultimate Spider-Man* graphic novel a while back and have been hooked ever since. I have some problems, though.

I have a bone to pick with the people saying "Gwen's death was bad, but never bring her back." The problem in the 616 Universe was that people were brought back too often, for too little reason, so fans overreact. There are many, many possible backdoors with the mysterious nature of the symbiotes.

Basically, if it's well-written and not overused, that's all that matters. While she seemed a good character to kill off for emotional impact, so would Mary Jane or Peter. Telling a good story comes before telling a realistic one. Gwen was one of the few characters I could truly relate to, and the comic feels emptier now.

Rosalie Walsh

We feel for you, Rosalie...if you read the *USM* #84 letters page, you know you're not alone. Many *USM* readers are missing Gwen.

Dear Spider Writers:

Just bought issue 82 of *Ultimate Spider-Man*. Fantastic. The humor was great, and I like the way you portrayed the Black Cat. A big improvement over the way she was portrayed in the past. I notice you have been putting guest stars in *USM*. Not bad—except when is the Vision going to guest-star?

John Stebor

Hmm...the Vision, you say? Okay, John, here's what you do. Take the magazine you're holding right now. Good. Okay, now...turn it over. And...start reading. Oh, yeah. We know how to keep the fans happy.

To Ralph,

I stopped reading this title just before it reached the 50-issue mark. My friends continued with it, but I'd begun to lose interest in where the characters were going.

Until "Warriors" hit the shelves. I was very interested to see the Ultimate version of Moon Knight, Iron Fist, and Shang-Chi, and even contemplated waiting for the trade paperback to come out. But impatience got the better of me and I'm now five issues into the story, and loving it!

Who would've thought that all it took to get me reading this title again was simply bringing in guest stars? Makes me wonder who we have in store for upcoming issues...

All the best,

Maarten Bouw
Melbourne, Australia

Glad you're back, Maarten...and, as always, the best is yet to come.

Bendis and staff,

Let me start off by saying that I can't tell you how great *Ultimate Spider-Man* continues to be! I've been a fan of Spidey since the mid-nineties and I don't think he's ever looked better than he does right now! Every issue continues to amaze me and I can't wait to read the conclusion to "Warriors"!

I've got a few questions. I was re-reading Black Cat's first appearance in issue #50 and Mary Jane mentions studying for mid-terms. Can we expect to see Peter and the crew move on to Junior year by issue 100? All I remember from my Junior year is that it was a lot more work than Sophomore year—a complication Peter doesn't need. Also, every time Pete meets Black Cat she makes some kind of reference to his costume. Any chance we will see her present him with the black cloth version she thought was "way sexier"?

Again, great work! Keep it up!

Christian Roeber
State College, PA

We're having lots of fun keeping Peter and the gang in high school, so I think we'll be keeping things moving slow for now. Besides, Junior year is SAT year. Why would you wish that on Peter? And I don't know if Black Cat's going to present Peter with *anything* after last issue...

Dear *Ultimate Spider-Man* letter page,

Last week I rented the *USM* videogame and within the same day I beat it! I could not put it down—the game was awesome. It was just so cool to see the comic come to life, hear the characters' voices, and that kind of stuff, but I have a few questions.

1. In the game there is an Ultimate Beetle, will he ever appear in the comic book?
2. Does the game affect the comic book, and if not how will Mr. Bendis bring back Ultimate Venom for the comic book?
3. Will there ever be an Ultimate Scorpion or an Ultimate Mysterio in the comic book?

Sincerely,
Alec Berry

1. Maybe.
2. It takes place in the same universe, but it's not like you *have* to play it to read the comic. The continuity of the game is the same as ours. Except when Peter keeps dying when I play...
3. Maybe.

Wow! I just finished the *Ultimate Spider-Man* videogame and I wanted to thank Brian Michael Bendis, Mark Bagley, Activision, and everyone at Ultimate Marvel for making such an awesome game. This has got to be the best Spider-Man, if not the best super-hero, game ever! Thanks.

Now about my favorite comic book: I am loving the "Warriors" arc, and the *Annual* was great as well. I only have one complaint. The whole Peter/Kitty thing is interesting, but I personally hope it doesn't last for very long. MJ is my favorite character, besides Peter, and I frankly like it better when she's dating Peter or playing a big part in the story. If Peter is going out with Shadowcat, MJ probably won't be that significant anymore.

So please get her back with Peter as soon as possible. Thanks, and keep rocking!

Jason Hendricks

Never fear, Jason. Whether she's with Peter or not, MJ will always be significant. And you gotta admit, the Peter and Kitty relationship is pretty darn cool...

Ultimate Spider-Man Folks:

Sadly, the "Warriors" story arc will be ending soon and we will be moving on to tales hopefully as good or better.

Ultimate Silver Sable made her debut in the new *Ultimate Spider-Man* game. The game being (reportedly) in continuity, I was wondering how Bendis, or anyone working on *USM*, plans to keep the people who won't play the game in the loop on the story and character developments in the game. Surely Spidey and Silver Sable will already know each other when the new story arc hits, leaving many readers confused.

I doubt there will be a recap issue, but maybe there could be a short blurb somewhere to keep the non-gamers updated.

Ryan Draz

Hopefully this issue cleared all that up for you. Bendis does it seamlessly, doesn't he?

Now—be sure to read the first chapter of the *Ultimate Vision* story, that leads right in to *Ultimate Extinction* in January! It's free, and it's right on the other side of this comic!



Next: Well, Sable has problems. Flash has problems. And we know Peter has problems. What do you do with a Spider-Man who isn't Spider-Man?!? Plus—Peter's new girlfriend, *Ultimate X-Men*'s Kitty Pryde, stops by for a visit! All that and a cliffhanger even our wallcrawler might not be able to escape from...be here in three weeks for "Silver Sable" part 2!

CAROLINE MCGRAW
SPECIAL THANKS

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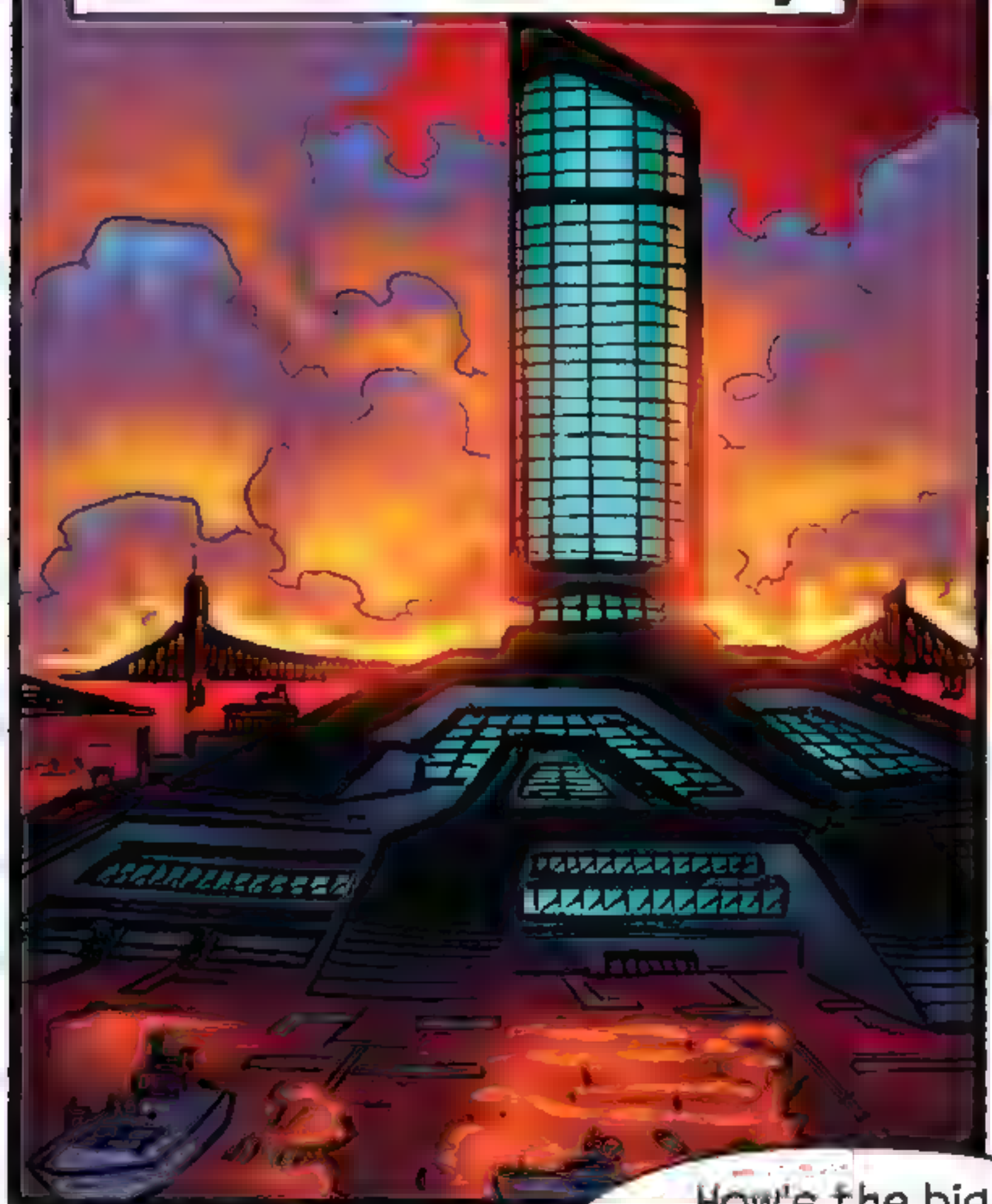
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MARK LETTERS AND E-MAIL

"OKAY TO PRINT"

The Triskelion?

Headquarters of the government's
Suprehuman Defense Initiative under
the command of General Nick Fury.



How's the big
brainstorming session
coming along, Reed? Am
I missing anything
spectacular?



We've got two
hundred of the
world's smartest
people under a
single roof, Doctor
Wilson.

It's a
nightmare.

General Fury asked
if you could finish up here
and join us for the *late
shift*. I think he's hoping
you'll bring a fresh head to
the table because the rest
of us have nothing.



VISIONS 1 OF 6

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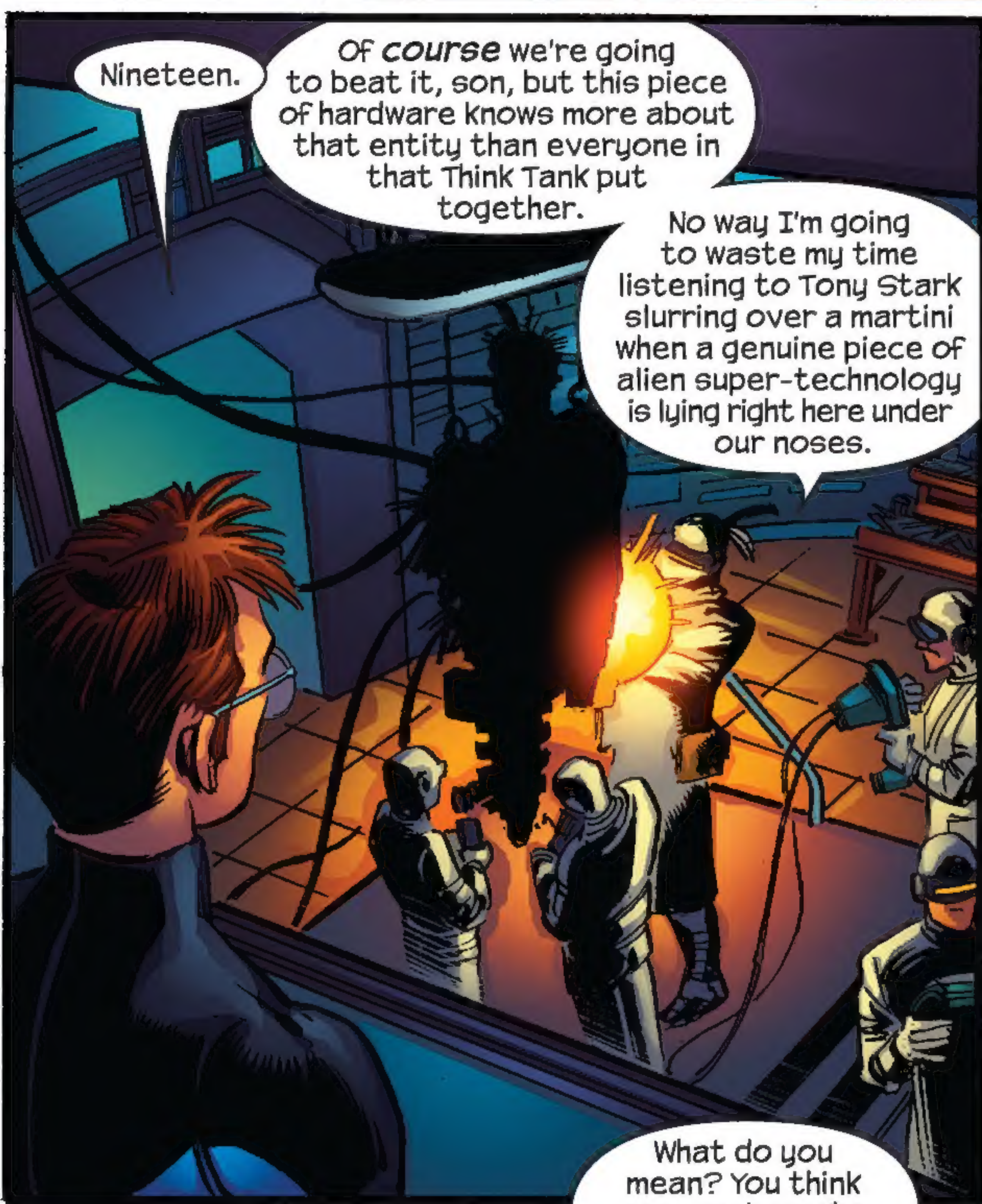


Tell Nick I'm fine where I am.

You think we're going to beat this thing? This Gah Lak Tus creature, I mean. You think we'll really come up with something to *stop* it in time?



How *old* are you again, Reed?



Nineteen.

Of *course* we're going to beat it, son, but this piece of hardware knows more about that entity than everyone in that Think Tank put together.

No way I'm going to waste my time listening to Tony Stark slurring over a martini when a genuine piece of alien super-technology is lying right here under our noses.



What do you mean? You think you can turn The Vision into some kind of *weapon*?



This consciousness is more alien and advanced than anything that's ever touched the Earth before, Reed. Who knows *what* we'll find to play with here?

Power surge through the chest-plate--



Cerebral cortex is lighting up like a Christmas tree. What the hell's going on?

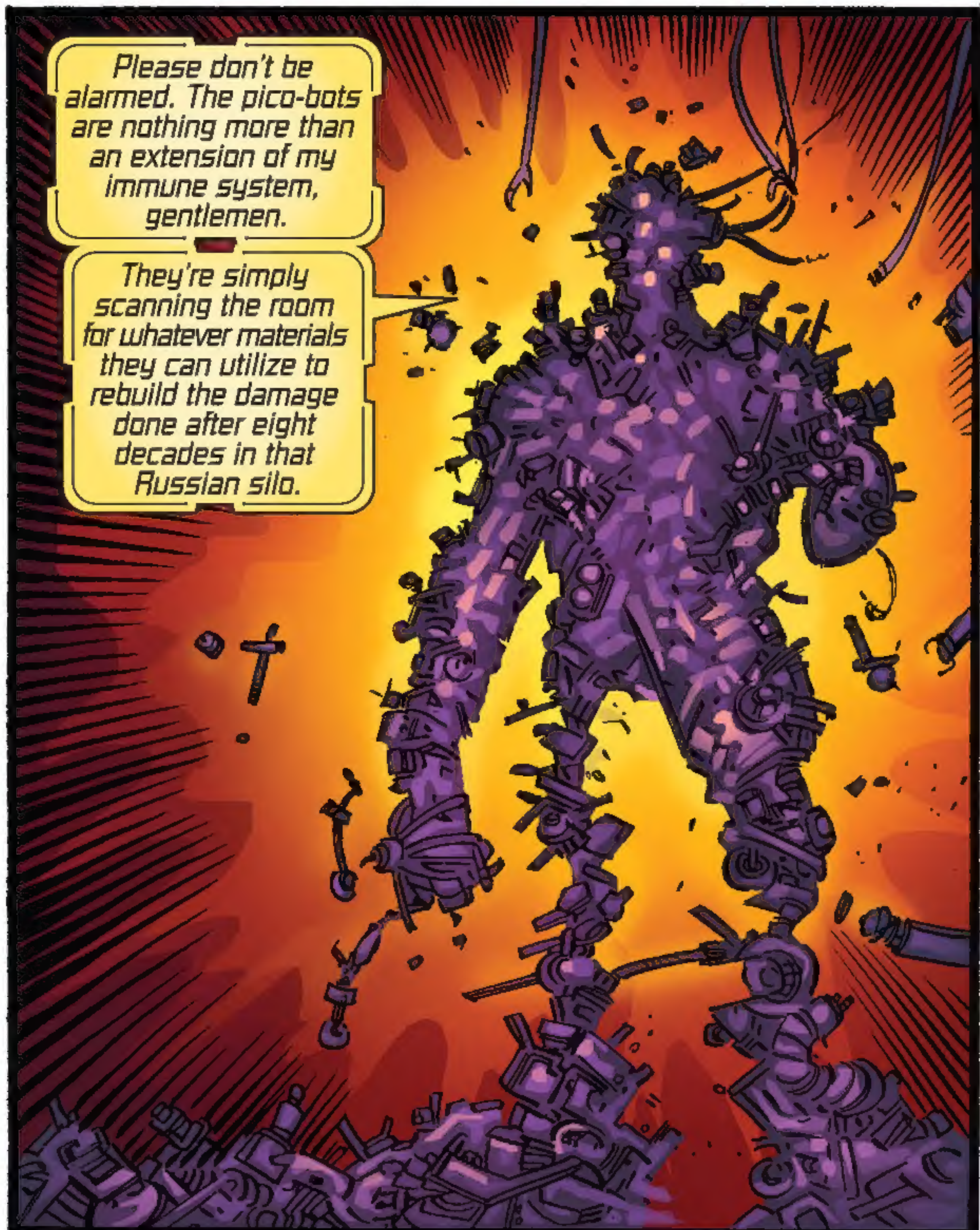
Don't touch it. Meter readings are off the scale...



Thank you, Doctor Wilson, but I believe I can take care of things from here.



Jeez!



Please don't be alarmed. The pico-bots are nothing more than an extension of my immune system, gentlemen.

They're simply scanning the room for whatever materials they can utilize to rebuild the damage done after eight decades in that Russian silo.



What... who are you?

Who sent you here?

My name is The Vision and I'm a herald sent to warn you of an extinction-level event.

Please listen carefully.

TO BE CONTINUED IN ULTIMATE X-MEN #65



SON OF ULTRAMAN